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E/ESCAP/748

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

ANNUAL REPORT

6 April 1989 - 13 June 1990

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL
OFFICIAL RECORDS, 1990

SUPPLEMENT No. 11

UNITED NATIONS

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NOTE

Symbols of United Nations documents are composed of capital letters combined with figures. Mention of such a symbol indicates a reference to a United Nations document.

E/1990/40
E/ESCAP/748

ISSN: 0252 - 2284

CONTENTS

	Paragraphs	Page
Abbreviations		(iv)
Introduction	1	1
Chapter		
I. ISSUES CALLING FOR ACTION BY THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL OR BROUGHT TO ITS ATTENTION	2-3	1
A. Issues calling for action by the Economic and Social Council	2-3	1
B. Resolutions brought to the attention of the Economic and Social Council		1
II. WORK OF THE COMMISSION SINCE THE FORTY-FIFTH SESSION	4-102	2
A. Activities of subsidiary bodies	4-77	2
Food, agriculture and rural development	5-10	2
Marine resources	11-15	2
Development issues and policies	16-19	3
Environment	20-22	3
Human settlements	23-25	3
Industrial development	26-28	4
International trade, development finance and tourism	29-33	4
Natural resources	34-42	5
Energy	43-45	6
Population	46-48	6
Science and technology	49-50	6
Statistics	51-53	7
Transport I (transport and communications)	54-58	7
Transport II (shipping, ports and inland waterways)	59-65	7
Social development	66-74	8
Transnational corporations	75-77	9
B. Other activities	78-81	9
Economic and technical co-operation among developing countries	79-81	9
C. Relations with other United Nations programmes	82-102	10
Annex. List of publications, meetings and advisory and other services		13
III. FORTY-SIXTH SESSION OF THE COMMISSION	103-749	27
A. Attendance and organization of work	103-117	27
B. Agenda	118	28
C. Account of proceedings	119-749	29
Inaugural address by the Prime Minister of Thailand	120-124	29
Message from the Secretary-General of the United Nations	125-130	29
Statement by the Executive Secretary of ESCAP	131-132	30

CONTENTS *(continued)*

	Paragraphs	*Page*
Policies and perspectives for the economic and social development of the ESCAP region	133-180	30
Policy statement by the Executive Secretary	133-148	30
Review of the development of the ESCAP region and the work of the Commission	149-161	32
Review and appraisal of the implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade, and preparations for the international development strategy for the fourth United Nations development decade	162-170	34
Review and appraisal of the implementation of the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries, and preparations for the United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries	171-180	34
Restructuring the developing ESCAP economies in the 1990s	181-196	35
Chairman's summary statement	192-196	36
Issues and programmes in various fields of activity of ESCAP	197-657	37
Issues in various fields of activity	200-546	37
Agriculture and rural development	200-245	37
Development planning	246-250	41
Industry, human settlements and technology	251-303	41
Environment	304-321	47
Natural resources, marine affairs and energy	322-369	49
Statistics and government computerization	370-391	53
Social development	392-440	56
International trade and tourism	441-481	60
Transport and communications	482-499	64
Population	500-531	65
Transnational corporations	532-546	68
Shelter strategies towards the year 2000	547-550	69
Transport and Communications Decade for Asia and the Pacific, 1985-1994: review of progress of implementation	551-562	70
Progress reports on regional institutions, special regional projects and other regional bodies	563-643	71
Administrative and financial issues related to the regional institutions	563-568	71
Regional Co-ordination Centre for Research and Development of Coarse Grains, Pulses, Roots and Tuber Crops in the Humid Tropics of Asia and the Pacific	569-579	72
Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific	580-587	73
Asian and Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology	588-602	74
Regional Energy Development Programme	603-609	75
Pacific Energy Development Programme	610-612	77
Regional Network for Agricultural Machinery	613-621	77

CONTENTS *(continued)*

	Paragraphs	Page
Asian and Pacific Development Centre	622-627	78
Committee for Co-ordination of Joint Prospecting for Mineral Resources in Asian Offshore Areas	628-635	78
Interim Committee for Co-ordination of Investigations of the Lower Mekong Basin	636-638	79
Typhoon Committee	639-643	79
Programme planning:		
Draft medium-term plan, 1992-1997	644-651	80
Proposed programme changes for 1990-1991	652-657	81
Economic and technical co-operation among developing countries	658-674	81
Special problems faced by the Pacific island countries: the Commission's activities in the Pacific	675-684	83
Review of the conference structure of the Commission	685-694	84
Announcement of intended contributions	695-740	85
Activities of the Advisory Committee of Permanent Representatives and Other Representatives Designated by Members of the Commission	741-745	89
Date, venue and any other subject pertaining to the forty-seventh session of the Commission	746-748	89
Adoption of the report of the Commission	749	90
IV. RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE COMMISSION AT ITS FORTY-SIXTH SESSION		91

Annexes

I.	Revised programme of work and priorities, 1990-1991	97
II.	Statement of programme budget implications of actions and proposals of the Commission	132
III.	Meetings of subsidiary bodies held during the period under review	133
IV.	Publications and documents issued by the Commission	134
V.	Terms of reference of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific	138
VI.	Rules of procedure of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific	140

ABBREVIATIONS

AARS	Asian Association on Remote Sensing
ACSAD	Arab Centre for the Study of Arid Zones and Dry Lands
ADB	Asian Development Bank
AIT	Asian Institute of Technology
APCTT	Asian and Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology
APDC	Asian and Pacific Development Centre
APSS	Asian Population Studies Series
APT	Asia-Pacific Telecommunity
ARSAP	agricultural requisites scheme for Asia and the Pacific
ASCOBIPS	Association of Shippers' Councils of Bangladesh, India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka
ASEAN	Association of South-East Asian Nations
CCC	Customs Co-operation Council
CCOP	Committee for Co-ordination of Joint Prospecting for Mineral Resources in Asian Offshore Areas
CGPRT Centre	Regional Co-ordination Centre for Research and Development of Coarse Grains, Pulses, Roots and Tuber Crops in the Humid Tropics of Asia and the Pacific
CIRAD	International Co-operation Centre of Agricultural Research for Development
CIRDAP	Centre for Integrated Rural Development for Asia and the Pacific
CITYNET	Regional Network of Local Authorities for the Management of Human Settlements
DESCONAP	Regional Network of Research and Training Centres on Desertification Control in Asia and the Pacific
ECDC	economic co-operation among developing countries
ECE	Economic Commission for Europe
EPOC	ESCAP Pacific Operations Centre
FADINAP	Fertilizer Advisory, Development and Information Network for Asia and the Pacific
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FASC	Federation of ASEAN Shippers' Councils
GATT	General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade
ICAO	International Civil Aviation Organization
IFA	International Fertilizer Industry Association
ILO	International Labour Organisation
IMO	International Maritime Organization
INSTRAW	International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women
ITC	International Trade Centre UNCTAD/GATT
ITU	International Telecommunication Union
NFIS	Network for Fertilizer Information Systems
NOAA	United States National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
POPIN	Population Information System
PORTMIS	Port Management Information System
REDP	Regional Energy Development Programme
RISS	Regional Information Support Service
RNAM	Regional Network for Agricultural Machinery
RRSP	Regional Remote Sensing Programme
SAARC	South Asian Association for Regional Co-operation
SEATRADC	Southeast Asia Tin Research and Development Centre
SIAP	Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific
SOPAC	South Pacific Applied Geoscience Commission
TCDC	technical co-operation among developing countries
TIS	Trade Information Service
TISNET	Regional Trade Information Network
UNCHS	United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat)
UNCSTD	United Nations Centre for Science and Technology for Development
UNCTAD	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
UNCTC	United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNDRO	Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNEPCOM	Commission of the USSR for UNEP
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organization
UNIFEM	United Nations Development Fund for Women
UPU	Universal Postal Union
WASME	World Assembly of Small and Medium Enterprises
WHO	World Health Organization
WINAP	Women's Information Network for Asia and the Pacific
WMO	World Meteorological Organization

Introduction

1. The annual report of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, which covers the period 6 April 1989-13 June 1990, was adopted unanimously by the Commission at its 708th meeting on 13 June 1990.

Chapter I

ISSUES CALLING FOR ACTION BY THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL OR BROUGHT TO ITS ATTENTION

A. Issues calling for action by the Economic and Social Council

Venue of the forty-seventh session of the Commission

2. At the 705th meeting of the Commission on 11 June 1990, the Government of the Republic of Korea offered to hold the forty-seventh session of the Commission at Seoul in 1991. The Government of the Republic of Korea agreed to bear all responsibility for the additional administrative, logistical and financial expenditure involved in holding the session away from the headquarters of the Commission.

3. At the same meeting, the Commission accepted the invitation of the Government of the Republic of Korea and decided to hold the forty-seventh session at Seoul, subject to the approval of the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly.

B. Resolutions brought to the attention of the Economic and Social Council

46/1. Strengthening the population activities of the Commission in the 1990s

46/2. Urbanization strategies in the ESCAP region - Towards environmentally sound and sustainable development and management of urban areas

46/3. Priorities and operation of ESCAP

46/4. Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries

46/5. Regional follow-up of the World Conference on Education for All - Meeting Basic Learning Needs

46/6. Integration of women in all aspects of development

46/7. Promotion of foreign investment in least developed countries of Asia and the Pacific

46/8. Technical and economic co-operation among developing countries for the least developed, land-locked and island developing countries

Chapter II

WORK OF THE COMMISSION SINCE THE FORTY-FIFTH SESSION

A. Activities of subsidiary bodies

4. During the year under review, the following subsidiary bodies met: the Committees on Agriculture, Rural Development and the Environment; Development Planning and Statistics; Industry, Technology and Human Settlements; and Natural Resources and Energy. Details of the dates and bureaux of these meetings are given in annex III to the report. The activities of the subsidiary bodies are outlined below. Lists of publications, meetings and advisory and other services under each programme appear in the annex to this chapter.

Food, agriculture and rural development

5. Secretariat activities continued to focus on three broad areas in accordance with the Commission's mandate: (a) improvement of agricultural policies, planning and information systems, (b) increasing production and improving supply, distribution, marketing and use of critical farm inputs through the services of the Fertilizer Advisory, Development and Information Network for Asia and the Pacific (FADINAP) and the agricultural requisites scheme for Asia and the Pacific (ARSAP), and (c) integrated rural development, with emphasis on the alleviation of poverty. Members and associate members were assisted in these fields through research studies, seminars, training workshops, the collection and dissemination of information and the provision of technical assistance. Increasing attention has been paid in recent years to the Pacific subregion, especially in terms of fertilizer sector development and the safe use of agro-pesticides.

6. Research was conducted on some critical issues of current importance to the region. They included the impact of unstable agricultural commodity prices at the farm level, fertilizer application under rainfed farming conditions, safety aspects of pesticide use, socio-economic constraints on the adoption of new and renewable sources of energy technologies, improving food security assessment techniques and devising a regional integrated rural development programme for the 1990s with the participation of the poor and disadvantaged. With regard to participatory rural development, grassroots cadres were exchanged among four developing countries in the region.

7. A range of other important issues was also considered at seminars and workshops organized by the secretariat. India hosted an international seminar on recycling of wastewater for aquaculture development. A regional seminar in China recommended measures to improve linkages between agricultural development and rural industrialization based on the experience of China's "township enterprises". A regional experts' meeting was held in the Republic of Korea to conduct an in-depth review of rural development strategies and plan further action in this field. The utilization of agricultural residues as a source of rural energy was discussed at a workshop at Bangkok. In addition, national workshops were held in several countries to develop action plans for generating non-farm employment and income for rural workers. Similar workshops were held to promote fertilizer use.

8. ESCAP, in co-operation with the United States National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and the Asian Institute of Technology (AIT), conducted a training course on satellite crop monitoring technology, which has been adopted by several members and associate members to enhance their food security. Fertilizer training courses were organized on: (a) efficient port handling, (b) import management, and (c) improved national information networks. Similar training was imparted on farm radio and television broadcasting.

9. Intergovernmental evaluations have found the secretariat's role to be supportive of the national as well as global objective of improving agricultural performance and alleviating rural poverty in the region. However, a drastic reduction in the regular budget staff has precluded the full achievement of the programme's planned objectives.

10. Technical assistance and advisory services were provided on various aspects of fertilizer development and agro-pesticides.

Marine resources

11. The integrated and multidisciplinary approach followed by the secretariat in implementing activities under the marine affairs programme has contributed to the realization by member countries that all problems concerning ocean space are closely interrelated and that they should be considered as a whole.

12. So far the activities under the programme have mainly concentrated on strengthening the capabilities of members and associate members in planning, assessing, developing and managing non-living resources under national jurisdiction.

13. The Seminar on Issues Associated with Offshore Installations and Structures in the Exclusive Economic Zone, held at Bangkok in February 1989, represented the first opportunity for the participating countries to discuss the removal of obsolete offshore hydrocarbon platforms in their exclusive economic zones, and examine national policies to be established within the framework of the guidelines and standards for the removal of offshore installations and structures on the continental shelf and in the exclusive economic zone, which were adopted by the International Maritime Organization (IMO) Assembly in November 1989.

14. The ocean energy study prepared by ESCAP contributes information on the technical, economic and commercial aspects of the various sources of ocean

energy, with emphasis on the experience in the South Pacific island countries. It will provide policy makers considering the use of ocean energy in their national energy policy with information on the options available and the experience of other countries.

15. The study on the implications of the new ocean regime deriving from the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea presents a framework for the formulation of an integrated and multisectoral national marine policy for Thailand. The first country study in a series of monographs, it highlights the rights and obligations of coastal countries and reviews sectoral policies and legislation with a view to examining their conformity with the Convention.

Development issues and policies

16. The major undertaking in the period under review was the preparation of the Commission theme study on restructuring the developing ESCAP economies in the 1990s with special reference to regional economic co-operation. The study highlights emerging issues at the national, regional and global levels that will have an impact on prospects for further growth and co-operation in the region in the coming decade. Closely related to the restructuring study has been the preparatory work under way on the regional perspective of the international development strategy for the fourth United Nations development decade. The expert group meetings and seminars on the restructuring theme topic as well as in the area of development strategies and policies helped to identify issues of major concern to the countries of the region and to seek solutions, especially through co-operative efforts.

17. With respect to development planning methods, modelling and projections, the series of seminars organized in the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics was well attended and favourably received by the participants. Similarly, the economic modelling work under the Link project gained momentum in fostering collaboration among experts in the region in this field. It also assisted in improving modelling techniques in the countries of the region.

18. Concerning publications and the dissemination of information, major attention was directed, as in the past, to the publication of the annual *Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific*. The special topic chosen for part two of the *Survey* for 1989 was the economic restructuring of the least developed and Pacific island developing countries.

19. Finally, good progress was made with regard to ongoing activities in the areas of the least developed and island developing countries. Human resources development was given priority in both these subprogrammes, with emphasis on training in various aspects of development planning. An important undertaking with respect to the least developed countries was the initiation of preparations for the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, to be held in Paris in September 1990.

Environment

20. The continuing work of the secretariat in the area of the environment was addressed to achieving environmentally sound and sustainable development, for which the secretariat was given a specific mandate in Commission resolution 267 (XLIV). The activities undertaken were concerned with a further strengthening of desertification and deforestation control through the ESCAP/UNDP/DESCONAP project, which included the proposed establishment of a DESCONAP (Regional Network of Research and Training Centres on Desertification Control in Asia and the Pacific) office in Tehran, and the protection of the marine environment through the development of coastal environmental management plans for Pakistan and Tonga, and assistance to environmental impact analyses and related training for Bangladesh, the Pacific and the eastern seaboard of Thailand. As part of the need to generate environmental consciousness at the level of both people and government through the media, programme support continued to be provided to the Asian Forum of Environmental Journalists and audio-visual modules on specific environmental problems were prepared.

21. An important component of the work programme in this field was the preparation of the second report on the state of the environment in Asia and the Pacific, based on comprehensive and updated information and data, for presentation at the Ministerial-level Conference on Environment and Development in Asia and the Pacific, scheduled to be held at Bangkok from 10 to 16 October 1990. Preparations were undertaken for the formulation of a regional strategy that will chart the path for environmentally sound and sustainable development, and an expert group meeting of eminent persons on "Greening the development process" was organized in preparation for the Conference. Further preparatory work was undertaken for the associated activities of the Ministerial-level Conference, namely the Media-Non-governmental Organization Symposium and CLEANTECH 1990 Exhibition. The exhibition will aim to stimulate awareness of the latest developments in clean, low-waste and pollution control technologies, while the main objective of the Symposium will be to consider a citizens' code of conduct and to involve the electronic media and non-governmental organizations in the Asian Forum of Environmental Journalists so that their activities are extended beyond those of journalism to incorporate a broader sphere of communication.

22. Preparatory work began on the UNDP project on environmentally sound and sustainable development and a regional expert meeting was held on trade and the economic aspects of environmental sustainability. With regard to the ESCAP/UNDP/World Bank project on the management of critical ecosystems, a regional workshop was held at Khao Yai, Thailand, to formulate recommendations on protected area management training priorities. Further preparatory work was also undertaken on hazardous waste management, tourism and port development.

Human settlements

23. The programme addressed three major areas: integrated settlements policies and planning, development of shelter, infrastructure and land; and stimulation of institutional capabilities and public participation. Priority was accorded to TCDC activities in settlement planning and development; strengthening institutional capabilities through technical co-

operation; and promotion of public participation in human settlements financing and development. Furthermore, the Commission, in its resolution 268 (XLIV) of 20 April 1988, specifically requested the secretariat to encourage and assist the members and associate members in the formulation of shelter strategies towards the year 2000.

24. Overall activities have focused on human resources development at the national, local and grassroots levels. Research was undertaken in selected priority areas, such as informal urban transport issues, land subdivisions in metropolitan fringe areas and local building material production. TCDC activities were expanded to promote sharing of experience and expertise among government officials, non-governmental organizations and community leaders, with particular emphasis on the improvement of low-income settlements. A notable development in regional co-operation was the initiation and expansion of activities under the Regional Network of Local Authorities for the Management of Human Settlements (CITYNET), which formalized its institutional framework for self-reliant implementation of TCDC activities involving city authorities, non-governmental organizations and relevant institutions.

25. Several review studies led to the preparation of technology leaflets and policy guidelines to assist member Governments in organizing their training activities at the national and local levels and in applying innovative schemes in the field of building regulations and housing finance. Experience-sharing among countries, through workshops and documentation dissemination, led to TCDC advisory services on the introduction of new and concrete schemes in particular countries. In line with resolution 268 (XLIV), the programme was able to assist Governments in the adoption of innovative shelter and settlement strategies and to contribute to the development of necessary human resources, including a larger number of planners at the local level as well as in non-governmental and community-based organizations.

Industrial development

26. The programme of work and priorities in the field of industrial development covered important activities in the areas of agro- and allied industries, promotion of small and medium-scale industries, investment promotion, development of human resources for industry, improvements in the technical and managerial efficiency of public sector industry, including privatization, special activities for industrial development in least developed and island developing countries and activities aimed at promoting regional and subregional co-operation for acceleration of industrial growth in the region. These activities were focused on meeting the needs of developing countries by taking into account their levels of industrial growth, technology and absorptive capacities, as well as by creating a wider base for overall future industrial growth and diversification of manufacturing output. In recent years, the secretariat was successful in mobilizing significant amounts of extrabudgetary resources and the substantive delivery of programmed activities improved significantly.

27. It is difficult at this stage to evaluate the impact of these activities; nevertheless the views expressed by representatives of Governments at legislative committee and Commission sessions clearly indicated their satisfaction with the secretariat's performance.

28. There is need to strengthen activities in certain core areas of industrial development, through additional regional co-operative programmes on improving the competitiveness of manufacturing output (especially oriented to exports), improving the quality of human resources for better industrial productivity and growth and, more concretely, assisting disadvantaged groups of countries, such as the least developed and island developing countries. Furthermore, the harmonization of industrial policies and strategies among developing countries for effective industrial restructuring, upgrading of technology and strengthening of facilities for generating new industrial skills is also of priority concern. The secretariat has planned activities to meet these crucial needs of developing countries of the region and will further streamline its activities in the future.

International trade, development finance and tourism

29. The activities conducted under this programme centred around five subprogrammes, relating to trade expansion, trade promotion and development, the development of commodities of interest to the region, as well as the promotion of subregional, regional and interregional trade co-operation. Under activities in the area of trade expansion and co-operation aimed at strengthening the capabilities of developing economies in the region, technical and training assistance in the area of trade facilitation was extended to selected developing countries in collaboration with UNCTAD and the Customs Co-operation Council. Special assistance to Pacific island countries was provided in the area of trade facilitation and through the publication of the Pacific Harmonized Customs Tariff Schedule.

30. There was continued emphasis on effective utilization of trade information for trade expansion through a programme of activities drawn up for the development of the Regional Trade Information Network (TISNET). Although the UNDP-funded project for TISNET was terminated in June 1989, important publications, including trade information guides, were produced. A series of country-specific traders' manuals was also issued. These manuals proved to be very popular and in great demand both within and outside the region. Special emphasis was placed on technical assistance and publications aimed at supplementing export promotion and development efforts, particularly in areas of product development, marketing techniques, financing and packaging.

31. Promotion of regional trade co-operation continued to be the main focus for member countries of the Bangkok Agreement. The fourth session of the Second Round of Negotiations was attended by the five signatory members and 10 other countries as observers, and was concluded. The multilateralized list of concessions reached 500 items, an increase of 300 per cent as compared with the First Round of Negotiations in 1979. Afghanistan and Papua New Guinea announced their decision to accede to the Agreement. To enhance regional monetary co-operation, the Asian Clearing Union introduced a

swap arrangement among its member countries. Efforts to expand the membership of the Bangkok Agreement, the Asian Clearing Union and the Asian Reinsurance Corporation continued.

32. In the field of international commodity trade, technical assistance and advisory services were provided to facilitate the formulation and application of appropriate strategies and policies related to restructuring, production and trade in the commodity sector in the region, particularly in the development of the silk industry. Efforts were also made to investigate the scope for intraregional trade expansion in selected commodities of socio-economic interest to developing economies of the region, specifically in the trade of vegetable oils. To complement efforts directed towards the development of specific commodities, training in commodity policy formulation was provided. In response to the emerging trends in intraregional trade in recent years, a project on regional trade in mineral commodities is planned for the coming biennium. In many of the above activities, special consideration was given to the specific needs and participation of the least developed countries.

33. The secretariat continued to provide technical assistance to developing countries with a view to securing greater socio-economic benefits from the sound development of tourism. The major focus was on the conduct of case studies on the economic impact of tourism in Indonesia, Malaysia, Maldives and Thailand. In order to keep developing countries in the region informed of recent developments in the tourism sector, the *ESCAP Tourism Review* was issued. Efforts were also directed towards developing activities relating to the environmental aspects of tourism development and human resources development. A study on the environmental aspects of mountain tourism in Nepal was initiated.

Natural resources

34. The activities of the secretariat in the mineral sector were concentrated on the compilation of regional thematic maps, preparation of publications on geology and an inventory of mineral resources, either on a regional or country-by-country review basis; promotion of subregional co-operation through technical support to the South-East Asia Tin Research and Development Centre, strengthening of national geological/exploration agencies through group training activities and advisory services on the formulation of mineral exploration projects and policies under the regional mineral resources development programme; and the appraisal of geology for planning purposes through various activities under the geology and urban development programme. These activities were in compliance with both intergovernmental and secretariat objectives in the mineral sector and contributed to the solution of the problems addressed.

35. Most of the outputs resulted in specific mineral exploration projects, cost-effective solutions in mineral exploration and better co-ordination of work between geologists and land-use planners.

36. Outputs also resulted in the formulation of two regional projects on training in mineral resources development in the least developed countries and trade in mineral commodities, to be supported by UNDP in 1990-1991.

37. The obvious achievement of the successful implementation of the work programme in the mineral sector was a growing international recognition of the ESCAP role in mineral resources exploration and development and the strengthening of co-operation and co-ordination with related international organizations.

38. All activities undertaken within the subprogramme on the rational development, management and utilization of water resources were relevant to the problems facing the countries of the region.

39. Efforts of developing countries in implementing the recommendations of the United Nations Water Conference and in achieving the goals of the International Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Decade were supported through the publication of guidelines for the preparation of national master water plans, studies on the development and conservation of ground-water resources and on application of solar and wind energies in water resources development, and organization of the Seminar on Water Quality Monitoring in the Asian and Pacific Region and the Seminar on the Use of Microcomputers in Water Resources Development. The secretariat co-operated with the World Meteorological Organization in providing technical support to the Typhoon Committee, the Panel on Tropical Cyclones and the Interim Committee for Co-ordination of Investigations of the Lower Mekong Basin.

40. Advisory missions to members and associate members were very useful. Assistance was provided for the mitigation of damage caused by water-related natural disasters through expert group meetings, workshops, publications and technical missions. Co-ordination and co-operation at the regional level among the United Nations specialized agencies and organizations in assisting the Governments of the region was undertaken through the Interagency Task Force on Water for Asia and the Pacific, with ESCAP serving as its secretariat.

41. The activities of the secretariat in cartography and the remote sensing programme continued to focus on strengthening national remote sensing technological and applicational capability through group training and long-term fellowship study programmes. Regional co-operation on remote sensing information-sharing, education and training and pilot projects implemented under TCDC arrangements were further promoted through the establishment and enhancement of the regional network mechanisms, including the Intergovernmental Consultative Committee on the Regional Remote Sensing Programme, a regional network on remote sensing education and training and a regional information service on remote sensing.

42. The outputs of the programme of work have contributed to consolidating many national remote sensing programmes for natural resources development, environmental management and ecologically sound development planning. The successful implementation of the programme of work also promoted ESCAP as an efficient intermediary for bringing about co-operation and co-ordination of remote sensing agencies and planners and decision makers, at both the regional and national levels.

Energy

43. The energy programme has continued to contribute to regional co-operation on energy issues very effectively through the documentation provided for the Committee on Natural Resources and Energy and through various intercountry projects and publications. Especially noteworthy is the degree of maturity achieved in approaching energy problems in a co-operative regional context, as exemplified by both the sectoral energy demand analysis workshops and tripartite reviews of the Regional Energy Development Programme (REDP), a UNDP/ESCAP intercountry project, and the developments in the Pacific towards the establishment of a "forum energy agency" resulting from regional and ministerial-level meetings organized by the Pacific Energy Development Programme (PEDP), a UNDP/ESCAP intercountry project.

44. Of particular significance to regional co-operation in the field of energy are the sectoral energy demand studies under REDP. The studies completed in 1989 have been assessed as having enhanced the capability of the eight participating countries to conduct sectoral energy demand analysis and fostered regional co-operation in energy demand analysis through the exchange of experience and information.

45. The secretariat has also responded to global concerns about environmental deterioration (for example, the alleged greenhouse effect) by initiating and executing a project on the climatic effects of increased fossil fuel burning and energy policy implications. This work took advantage of the above-mentioned sectoral demand analysis efforts as well as the results of surveys carried out for the Committee on Natural Resources and Energy.

Population

46. The activities under the subprogramme on population and development contributed to creating greater awareness concerning the major issues in the area of population aging, through generating primary data on these issues in four countries of the region, and developing a set of policy and programme recommendations on aging. They also increased knowledge about the interrelationship between population and development variables and facilitated the development of a framework for research and planning. As urbanization is becoming an issue of increasing importance, the secretariat has started investigating the interrelationships between urbanization, economic structure and the role of migrant workers, particularly women. In pursuance of Commission resolution 272 (XLIV) of 20 April 1988 on the study on the implications of demographic changes on the development of human resources, the secretariat has initiated an analytical study on the implications of changes in the demographic situation for the various aspects of human resources development. The award of fellowships greatly assisted the countries with limited or no training facilities in developing a cadre of manpower trained in demography.

47. The activities under the subprogramme on population policies have made a significant contribution to narrowing the gap between stated fertility goals and actual fertility levels by providing technical assistance, on request, for strengthening and implementing appropriate fertility-regulating policies and programmes in the countries of the region. Further contributions to that end under this subprogramme have been the carrying out of operations research and evaluation studies for the improvement of programme performance, the conduct of training activities and workshops for programme personnel of the national Governments and the formulation of suggestions concerning future directions for and innovative approaches to family planning programmes.

48. The population information subprogramme has contributed to the improved utilization of population information and data at the national level through the provision of technical assistance, training and information services to 13 national population information centres in the Asia-Pacific Population Information Network (POPIN). Response to direct technical assistance requests by Network members has increased substantially. Expanded TCDC activities, including training workshops and arrangements for personnel exchanges among the national POPIN centres in co-operation with the ESCAP ECDC-TCDC Services Section, have been well received. Further gains have been realized in co-ordinating Asia-Pacific POPIN with the HELLIS (Health Literature, Library and Information Services) Network of the World Health Organization through co-sponsorship of a training course in November 1989. The *Asia-Pacific Population Journal* and *Population Headliners* were evaluated by their readership, as a result, improvements were introduced in both serial publications. Requests for grants to translate ESCAP population publications into national languages have increased, but this programme needs to be evaluated in the near future to assess its continuing relevance. Support continues for the Association of South-East Asian Nations population information network (ASEAN POPIN) as a model for subregional population information networking, but difficulties remain in stimulating subregional networking among national population information centres, and no progress has been made in establishing a counterpart POPIN network among the countries of the South Asian Association for Regional Co-operation (SAARC).

Science and technology

49. The programme covered a range of important subjects and activities aimed at strengthening and establishing an institutional infrastructure for science and technology, strengthening the technological capabilities of members and associate members and monitoring major breakthroughs in science and technology. The outputs were designed to assist developing countries of the ESCAP region in building up and strengthening indigenous capabilities for the selection, acquisition, development, adaptation and utilization of technology. To a large extent, this aim was achieved for the subject areas and activities covered in the annex to this chapter for the selected country target groups addressed. The impact on a range of countries cannot be assessed adequately. However, at its first session, held from 11 to 15 September 1989, the Committee on Industry, Technology and Human Settlements expressed satisfaction at the progress made so far by the secretariat in this sector.

50. In spite of this, further work has to be done to reach more countries, to replicate indigenously the results of various capability-building activities at the national level, to involve to a greater extent least developed and Pacific island countries, which require more attention, and to increase subject-area coverage judiciously, resources permitting. The assessment undertaken so far is incomplete in the sense that more in-depth examination is called for after a longer period of time has elapsed, since capability-building activities are usually of longer gestation periods. In that regard, for better, more effective and complete analytical assessment in the future, appropriate policy decisions should provide for the practice of setting aside adequate resources for mandatory in-depth programme evaluation activities at the national level.

Statistics

51. The statistics development work of the secretariat was maintained at the historically high levels of delivery achieved in the previous year. In addition to the Committee on Development Planning and Statistics, three technical meetings were convened, including an ESCAP/SIAP (Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific) seminar on managing statistical services in the 1990s, which attracted many chief statisticians of the region. With the recommencement of the New Delhi-based training programme on household surveys, and the organization (jointly with UNICEF) of a month-long training workshop on social indicators for children and women, a sharply increased proportion of the secretariat's staff resources were devoted to statistical training. Regional advisory services were strengthened during the year and a total of 63 advisory missions were delivered to developing countries of the region. It is felt that satisfactory progress has been made towards the objective of strengthening national statistical capabilities.

52. The statistical information services subprogramme continued to deliver the regular statistical publications of the secretariat on schedule, and with generally enhanced coverage of national data series. Some progress was made on the development of a network of integrated data bases in the secretariat through consultations with other organizations and the compilation of an inventory of existing computerized data holdings, but the task force set up to pursue this matter has been dissolved.

53. In the field of government computerization, staff vacancies and delays in obtaining extrabudgetary funds have resulted in a very low level of achievement since the last session of the Commission. The subprogramme has not therefore made any significant contribution to assisting Governments in identifying policy issues or strengthening their infrastructure in the area of public sector computerization.

Transport I (transport and communications)

54. Under the subprogramme on general transport planning and facilitation of international traffic, the secretariat contributed to national efforts to pursue an integrated approach to the medium- and long-term planning of the transport and communications sector, within the framework of national development planning. The secretariat conducted a meeting of national experts on integrated transport planning; carried out national surveys in a number of countries in the region; and organized a meeting of senior experts on development of integrated transport planning. The secretariat's efforts are being intensified in 1990 through national workshops and advisory services.

55. With respect to the subprogramme on the development of highways and highway transport, the secretariat contributed to the strengthening of the training as well as the research development capacities of selected road research institutions in the region through undertaking a series of training courses for road engineers within the framework of the UNDP-funded project on development of rural road infrastructure. The secretariat also promoted energy conservation measures and the substitution of gasoline and diesel fuels, identifying compressed natural gas (CNG) as an economical and environmentally clean substitute. A demonstration project is being conducted in Pakistan.

56. Under the subprogramme on the development of railways and railway transport, the secretariat contributed to the modernization of railways in the region through the transfer of railway technology, particularly that related to computerized wagon control systems and railway electrification.

57. The secretariat also promoted the development of a cost-effective railway signalling system for single-track lines in developing countries of the region. A pilot system is being installed on the Mae Klong line of the State Railway of Thailand under the UNDP-funded demonstration project on a cost-effective rail signalling and telecommunications system. This system will maximize the safety and utilization of the existing railway lines, particularly those sections which have low-density traffic and service remote geographical areas in the developing countries of the region. The secretariat also promoted human resources development in the field of railways by publishing a guide to railway training.

58. Under the subprogramme on the development of communications infrastructure, in compliance with Commission resolution 270 (XLIV) on adoption of measures in the Asian and Pacific region to support follow-up of the report *The Missing Link* on telecommunication, the secretariat held discussions with both the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) and the Asia-Pacific Telecommunity (APT) on the work being undertaken by them in the ESCAP region, undertook a survey mission to selected countries of the region to discuss needs and development of telecommunications; and prepared a report which would be submitted to the Committee on Shipping, Transport and Communications at its thirteenth session in December 1990. The report would conclude with identification of a programme of activities in the field of telecommunications which the secretariat might undertake in association with ITU and APT to avoid duplication or overlapping.

Transport II (shipping, ports and inland waterways)

59. Activities in the field of maritime and inland water transport focused on human resources development, model development, the transfer of technology, regional co-operation, TCDC and advisory

services under the umbrella of the Transport and Communications Decade for Asia and the Pacific, 1985-1994.

60. High priority was accorded to human resources development in all sectors of the programme. In particular, a series of workshops on the training of training managers and the establishment of a subregional training centre for shippers played a significant role in the development of the self-reliance of shippers' organizations.

61. Work on the development of an upgraded, updated and uniform maritime legal framework continued through the provision of advisory services to implement the guidelines for maritime legislation and the development of model port-related legislation and model maritime labour legislation. This has contributed not only to assisting the members and associate members concerned in conforming their legislation to international maritime conventions but also to the improvement of the functioning of maritime-related organizations.

62. A series of workshops and seminars on multimodal transport created awareness of the implications of the introduction of multimodalism, established co-ordination among the parties concerned and contributed to identifying some of the actual constraints and bottle-necks in the region.

63. Activities under the port development programme promoted efficient port management information systems as well as planning and management of ports, updated and simplified port tariff structure and rationalized port computer systems in both management and operation. This contributed significantly to a more efficient port management system and investment policy.

64. A series of activities on inland water transport, aimed at creating awareness of its value in the overall economic development of riverine countries, was undertaken through seminars and workshops and the development of training programmes for trainers, as well as advisory services on certain specific problems. These activities have been of particular importance to most of the land-locked and the least developed countries as well as to rural areas of the region, which rely heavily on inland water transport for the movement of goods.

65. Promotion of regional co-operation continued through the organization of meetings of chief executives in the maritime sector. These activities, particularly in the field of shippers' co-operation and organizations, have encouraged more active contribution by the private sector in the formulation of a future work plan.

Social development

66. In its subprogramme on popular participation, the secretariat contributed to national efforts to promote policies and programmes to stimulate greater participation of the entire population in the development process, with special emphasis on less advantaged groups such as women, youth, disabled persons and the elderly.

67. More specifically, with respect to women in development, the secretariat generated greater awareness in the region of women's legal rights and constraints. Policy guidelines were prepared as a means of stimulating national action to eliminate discriminatory legislative provisions and practices that serve as impediments to the achievement of equal rights for women. In addition, the secretariat contributed to the strengthening of national, subregional and regional women's information systems through training on the management of women's information centres, improvement of indicators on women's issues and more systematic information exchange. To provide needed information services concerning women in the region, directories and newsletters on the status and participation of women in development were prepared and issued.

68. With respect to youth in development, the secretariat contributed to the strengthening of national capabilities for addressing youth problems and concerns in the context of socio-economic change. Meetings were convened on critical youth issues in the region, including youth crime prevention, youth entrepreneurship and youth skills training. Advisory services were rendered to assist Governments in enhancing national policies and programmes to integrate youth in the development process. Information publications, including newsletters and directories, were issued to strengthen channels of communication among government agencies dealing with youth concerns and youth organizations in the region.

69. With respect to disabled persons in development, the secretariat contributed to the development of community-based approaches and programmes for disability prevention and rehabilitation, through the organization of workshops and the preparation and dissemination of publications.

70. With respect to elderly persons in development, the secretariat contributed to generating awareness of issues relating to legislation, social security and social services for elderly persons through the preparation and dissemination of studies.

71. In its subprogramme on social development policies and co-ordination, the secretariat contributed to national efforts to strengthen the social component of development policies and programmes, including those relating to human resources development.

72. More specifically, with respect to social development policy and planning, the secretariat undertook a variety of activities to promote and strengthen integrated social development planning. In fulfilling this task, the secretariat implemented the first phase of work towards the formulation of a regional social development strategy, including the preparation of a series of background studies on the regional social development situation and policies. In addition, advisory services were provided in the areas of social development planning and training, as well as crime prevention and criminal justice. The secretariat also assisted Governments in policy analysis of emerging social development issues, including the socio-economic impact of rural development programmes on low-income groups, and the role of non-governmental organizations in promoting social development and consumer protection issues. The secretariat also undertook activities to improve social

development information systems in the region, including the preparation and dissemination of a compendium of social development indicators, a study on indicators on the assessment of social trends, and newsletters on selected issues in social development.

73. With respect to human resources development, the secretariat undertook a number of activities in direct pursuance of the Jakarta Plan of Action on Human Resources Development in the ESCAP Region. One activity involved the formulation of methodologies for the conduct of a survey of the quality of life in Asia and the Pacific, in accordance with the mandate given by the Commission in resolution 274 (XLIV). In addition, a regional network of national focal points for human resources development was activated to ensure the co-ordination of the full and effective implementation of the Jakarta Plan of Action at the regional and national levels. Advisory services were also rendered to Governments to promote and strengthen an integrated approach to human resources development, as advocated in the Jakarta Plan of Action.

74. In its subprogramme on health and development, the secretariat contributed to the development of approaches and programmes to combat the rapid spread of drug abuse in the region. This was achieved through the conduct of national workshops to design programmes for the prevention of drug abuse, the preparation and dissemination of publications, and the provision of advisory services. In addition, to promote the development of basic community services, the secretariat undertook a survey of community participatory approaches to the provision of basic community health services.

Transnational corporations

75. The ESCAP/UNCTC Joint Unit on Transnational Corporations completed its research project and held an expert group meeting on environmental management of transnational corporations in pollution-intensive industries in May 1989. The meeting was held in accordance with the Joint Unit's subprogramme 1, "Enhancing the contribution of transnational corporations to development and minimizing any negative effects of their operations". Overall, the meeting was a success. Important issues such as the responsibility of transnational corporations and host country policy makers in preventing the countries from becoming either dumping grounds for waste or the testing ground for possible pollution-prone experiments were discussed. This led to a more fundamental discussion of how developing countries could maximize the benefits of transnational corporation activities and at the same time avoid the costs of environmental degradation that characterized their operation. The meeting had quite extensive coverage and was intellectually stimulating and academically useful. Nevertheless, given the time constraints, it was impossible to exhaust all the relevant areas or topics which needed attention.

76. The Joint Unit published its study, *The Socio-economic Impact of Transnational Corporations in the Fast Food Industry*, highlighting the emergence and the future of the fast food industry in the Asian region. The study was very well received by the media. The Joint Unit also published *Asia-Pacific TNC Review 1989*, No. 6, which included several articles on transnational corporation participation in particular sectors of the economy, such as transnational hotel chains in Thailand, an overview of foreign direct investment in China and an in-depth analysis of the special economic zones of China.

77. The Joint Unit also continued to strengthen its information activities: finalization of data collection for the publication by the United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations (UNCTC) in 1990 of volume I of a TNC directory, on Asia and the Pacific; activities related to the development of national information systems; and the establishment of a regional information network. In addition to rendering support for advisory services provided by UNCTC, the Joint Unit provided advisory services to Bangladesh, Nepal, Thailand and Viet Nam.

B. Other activities

78. In addition to the work of its legislative committees, the secretariat performed the following promotional and supportive activities of a substantive nature.

Economic and technical co-operation among developing countries

79. In line with the directive of the Commission at its forty-fifth session in March-April 1989, the secretariat continued its efforts to promote TCDC activities jointly with other intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, such as the Asian and Pacific Coconut Community (APCC), International Pepper Community (IPC), Asian and Pacific Development Centre (APDC), Asian Alliance of Appropriate Technology Practitioners (APPROTECH ASIA), Technonet Asia, International Training Centre for Water Resources Management (CEFIGRE), Appropriate Technology International (ATI), Asian Mass Communication Research and Information Centre and Institute of Agricultural Engineering of the Netherlands.

80. With the generous assistance of the Governments of China, the Netherlands, Norway, the Republic of Korea and Sweden to the ESCAP-TCDC supplementary fund and with the collaboration of the above-mentioned organizations, the secretariat was able to support 33 operational TCDC activities by covering the international cost component of such activities. There was increasing provision of the services of resource persons on a TCDC basis by governmental and non-governmental organizations of China, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines and the Republic of Korea to the TCDC activities supported by the secretariat. In addition, field study visits were increasingly undertaken on a TCDC basis on specific subjects of interest to members and associate members. These included visits to Bangladesh on the Grameen Bank operation, to China on water resources development, to India on coconut intercropping, to the Republic of Korea on tribology techniques, to Malaysia on the entrepreneurship programme for youth, and to Thailand on agricultural equipment and processing machinery.

Food, agriculture and rural development

TCDC activities were sponsored on: (a) tropical sericulture development, (b) innovative rural credit systems, (c) national fertilizer institutions, and (d) fertilizer demand projections. Technical missions assisted the participating countries in operationalizing their satellite crop monitoring systems.

Industry, human settlements and the environment

A field study tour was undertaken by nine non-governmental organization workers and women leaders of the pavement community in Bombay to Seoul, Bangkok and Dhaka to visit low-income settlements and to exchange views and experience with local host non-governmental organizations.

81. Progress reports on the activities of the following regional projects, institutions and intergovernmental bodies were submitted to the Commission in separate documents:

Committee for Co-ordination of Joint Prospecting for Mineral Resources in Asian Offshore Areas

Pacific Energy Development Programme

Regional Energy Development Programme

Typhoon Committee

C. Relations with other United Nations programmes

82. In implementing some of its activities in the field of food, agriculture and rural development, the secretariat continued to co-operate with other concerned agencies, in particular ILO, FAO and UNIDO, as well as other relevant global and regional organizations. In integrated rural development, ESCAP, UNICEF, UNDP, UNEP, UNFPA, ILO, FAO, UNESCO and WHO continued to collaborate under the auspices of the United Nations Interagency Committee on Integrated Rural Development for Asia and the Pacific and its Interagency Task Force.

83. With respect to the marine resources programme, the secretariat co-ordinated its activities with the Office for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea at United Nations Headquarters in all aspects of the law of the sea. Close co-operation was maintained with CCOP and SOPAC, at Bangkok and Suva respectively, in activities dealing with offshore prospecting for mineral resources. Contact was maintained with the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) of UNESCO to ensure that activities did not overlap.

84. As in past years, close co-operation was maintained with the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs, United Nations Headquarters, in undertaking several activities in the field of development issues and policies, particularly with respect to the preparation of the *Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific* and activities related to the Link project. The secretariat also fielded a joint advisory mission to Viet Nam with staff members of that Department. Collaboration continued with UNCTAD in undertaking research studies and preparing the regional input for the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries scheduled to be held in Paris in September 1990. Co-operation was maintained with UNDP in several areas of mutual interest, especially in extending technical assistance to the Pacific island developing countries and in preparing the theme study on restructuring for the forty-sixth session of the Commission.

85. In the field of the environment, the secretariat maintained close working relations with all agencies with regard to the holding of the Ministerial-level Conference on Environment and Development in Asia and the Pacific (October 1990); with UNEP in all areas of mutual concern; with UNDP in the management of terrestrial ecosystems (desertification aspects) and in the implementation of Commission resolution 267 (XLIV) of 20 April 1988 on the adoption and implementation of the principle of environmentally sound and sustainable development in the Asian and Pacific region. Additionally, consultations on the respective programmes of work were held, and co-ordination of programme activities was undertaken with FAO, WHO, the World Bank and ADB in different areas and aspects of environmental management.

86. In the field of human settlements, the secretariat participated in the twelfth session of the Commission on Human Settlements, held at Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, from 24 April to 3 May 1989. The representative of ESCAP briefed that Commission on the activities of the ESCAP/UNCHS Joint Unit on Human Settlements and on other ESCAP initiatives in the field of human settlements.

87. In the area of industrial development, close co-operation continued with UNIDO through frequent contacts between staff members and through jointly organized studies, meetings and seminars. Detailed modalities for future co-operation were worked out at the First ESCAP/UNIDO Joint Programme Development Meeting, held at Bangkok on 12 and 13 December 1989. Co-operation was maintained with UNCTC in relation to projects and advisory services on investment promotion activities.

88. In the international trade sector, the secretariat collaborated with UNCTAD, GATT and the Customs Co-operation Council (CCC) in conducting training programmes to promote trade expansion and trade facilitation. In addition, the secretariat continued to co-operate with the International Trade Centre UNCTAD/GATT (ITC) in the implementation of activities in the field of trade promotion, including training and trade information.

89. In the field of raw materials and commodities, the secretariat maintained close working relations in areas of mutual concern and interest with UNCTAD, ITC, FAO, UNIDO, the International Jute Organization (IJO), the International Silk Association (ISA), the International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO) and the International Natural Rubber Organization (INRO).

90. In the field of tourism, the secretariat continued to co-operate with ILO, WTO and the Pacific Asia Travel Association in the implementation of its activities.

91. In the natural resources programme, the secretariat co-operated with the Commission for the Geological Map of the World, in the preparation of geological and mineral resources maps; the UNESCO International Geological Correlation Programme and the International Union of Geological Sciences, in the compilation of geological and thematic maps and in stratigraphic correlation between sedimentary basins of the region; UNDP, in technical reviews and monitoring of the activities of the UNDP-assisted regional mineral resources development projects of SEATRADC, CCOP and SOPAC; the United Nations Departments of Technical Co-operation for Development and of International Economic and Social Affairs, on mineral resources exploration and development programmes in the region; and the United Nations Revolving Fund for Natural Resources Exploration.

92. In the field of water resources development, co-ordination with other United Nations programmes was carried out at the regional level through the Interagency Task Force on Water for Asia and the Pacific. Close co-operation was maintained with the Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator (UNDRO) and WMO in providing substantive support to the work programme of the Typhoon Committee and the Panel on Tropical Cyclones. Similarly, the project on the Regional Network for Training in Water Resources Development was implemented in close collaboration with the Department of Technical Co-operation for Development, UNEP, ILO, FAO, UNESCO, WMO and others. The Seminar on Water Quality Monitoring in the Asian and Pacific Region was organized in a co-operative effort with the United Nations Department of Technical Co-operation for Development and the Interim Committee for Co-ordination of Investigations of the Lower Mekong Basin. The secretariat participated in the *ad hoc* expert group meetings on the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction organized by UNDRO in Rabat and Tokyo.

93. In the field of remote sensing, the secretariat, through its UNDP-funded Regional Remote Sensing Programme, and with extrabudgetary assistance from the Government of Australia, organized a training course on the use of visible, infra-red and radar systems in hydrological and agrometeorological applications in co-operation with the Outer Space Affairs Division of the United Nations Secretariat, FAO, WMO and the European Space Agency. The Department of Technical Co-operation for Development and FAO participated in the meeting of the directors of remote sensing centres/programmes in the ESCAP region and in the sixth session of the Intergovernmental Consultative Committee on the ESCAP/UNDP Regional Remote Sensing Programme. A pilot project on remote sensing was also conducted in collaboration with the Secretariat of the Interim Committee for Co-ordination of Investigations of the Lower Mekong Basin.

94. In the field of energy, close contact was maintained with the Department of Technical Co-operation for Development, UNDP, ILO, FAO and UNIDO concerning the Regional Energy Development Programme as well as the regional programme of action on new and renewable sources of energy. Information exchange with the Economic Commission for Europe and other bodies, and mutual participation in activities took place on a regular basis. Co-operation in energy planning and electricity system planning was established with the International Atomic Energy Agency for the transfer and use of computer models. Co-operation also continued with the Asian and Pacific Development Centre.

95. Most of the UNFPA-funded activities of the Population Division were carried out in co-ordination with other United Nations programmes and agencies. Co-operation covered areas such as assistance in training activities, seminars, technical support and co-ordination of information networks. Partners in these activities included the United Nations Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs, the Population Division/Department of International Economic and Social Affairs, the Department of Technical Co-operation for Development, ILO, UNESCO and WHO.

96. In the fields of transport and communications, the secretariat co-operated, when necessary, with ICAO on economic aspects of air cargo transport; with UPU on postal development; and with ITU and APT on telecommunications development. The secretariat maintained co-operation with other regional commissions, UNCTAD, the World Bank, IMO and ADB on matters concerning highways, railways, shipping and ports; the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for the Law of the Sea, UNCTAD, ILO and IMO, on maritime legislation; and UNDP on highways, railways, shipping, ports, inland waterways and dredging.

97. In the field of social development, the secretariat maintained close contact and co-operation with other United Nations bodies and specialized agencies. ESCAP, UNDP, ILO and UNESCO participated in a joint project formulation mission to develop a regional project on human resources development as a major activity in implementation of the Jakarta Plan of Action on Human Resources Development in the ESCAP Region. In the sectors of social development planning, women, youth, disabled persons, the elderly and drug abuse control, close co-operation and co-ordination were maintained with the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs, UNICEF, UNDP, UNAFEI (United Nations Asia and Far East Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders), UNFDAC (United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control), UNIFEM, UNV (United Nations Volunteers), ILO, FAO, UNESCO, WHO and INSTRAW. Information exchange with other United Nations regional commissions on women's issues took place on a regular basis. Joint project activities were undertaken with WHO in the field of drug abuse rehabilitation. Inter-agency consultations were held to promote inter-agency co-ordination and co-operation with respect to women, youth, disabled persons and human resources development.

98. In the field of transnational corporations, the ESCAP/UNCTC Joint Unit, in collaboration with UNEP, convened the Expert Group Meeting

on Environmental Management of Transnational Corporations in Pollution-intensive Industries in May 1989.

99. The Joint Unit is organizing a symposium on transnational technology towards the year 2000, in co-operation with UNCTC and UNCSTD.

100. With respect to activities related to science and technology, close co-operation was maintained with UNCSTD, UNCTAD, UNDP and UNIDO. A workshop on advanced materials technology and development for Asia and the Pacific was organized at Minsk, USSR, by UNCSTD in close co-operation with ESCAP and with the active participation of UNIDO in June 1989. Representatives of ILO, FAO and UNESCO participated in the *Ad Hoc* Expert Group Meeting on Integration of Women in Technological Development, organized by ESCAP in September 1989. In the formulation of regional activities for strengthening the project generation capabilities of the Pacific island and least developed countries for a related regional project, staff of UNIDO were consulted and their agreement obtained to co-operate during the implementation of the project. Similarly, consultations were held with UNCTAD and UNCSTD to identify areas of common interest in their respective work programmes for possible collaboration during implementation.

101. The secretariat maintained close collaboration in the field of statistics with intergovernmental organizations and various international technical assistance agencies outside the United Nations, non-governmental organizations and professional and academic institutions.

102. The secretariat held extensive consultations with ECE, FAO, UNESCO, OECD and the Statistical Bureau of the Management and Co-ordination Agency of Japan concerning the development of a network of data bases in the ESCAP secretariat.

Annex

LIST OF PUBLICATIONS, MEETINGS AND ADVISORY AND OTHER SERVICES

A. *List of publications*

Food, agriculture and rural development

Agricultural Information Development Bulletin (quarterly)

Agricultural Price Instability: Impact, Programmes and Policy Options - Asian Experience (ST/ESCAP/789)

Agro-chemicals News in Brief (quarterly), with two special issues

ARSAP/CIRAD Regional Agro-pesticide Index, vol. I, *Asia*; vol. II, *Pacific*

Calendar of Meetings on Agro-chemicals (quarterly)

Directory of Fertilizer-related Projects in Asia and the Pacific (ST/ESCAP/731)

FADINAP Fertilizer Trade Information Bulletin (monthly)

FADINAP/ARSAP Publications Catalogue 1982-1989 (ST/ESCAP/852)

FADINAP/NFIS Training Package for Fertilizer Information Processing, vol. VII, *FADINAP/ARSAP-NFIS Thesaurus of Fertilizer-related Terminology* (ST/ESCAP/837)

Farm Broadcasting: A Trainer's Handbook (ST/ESCAP/735)

Farm Broadcasting in the Asian and Pacific Region (ST/ESCAP/771)

Integrated Rural Development in Asia and the Pacific - A Framework for Action for the 1990s (ST/ESCAP/752)

New and Renewable Sources of Energy Technologies in Rural Settings: Programmes and Policy Options for Diffusion in Selected Asian Countries (ST/ESCAP/828)

RISS, Regional Information Support Service (a monthly abstract of selected agro-chemical literature)

Training Manual on Farm Broadcasting: A Guidebook to Basic Radio Programme Production for Agricultural Extension Workers (ST/ESCAP/780)

Marine resources

Study on the Implications of the New Ocean Regime Deriving from the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, vol. I, *Thailand and the Law of the Sea*; vol. II, *Indonesia and the Law of the Sea* (ST/ESCAP/826)

Study on Ocean Energy Resources (ST/ESCAP/827)

Development issues and policies

Development Planning Newsletter, No. 9, June 1989

Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific 1989 (ST/ESCAP/820)

Economic Bulletin for Asia and the Pacific, vol. XXXIX, No. 1, June 1988 (ST/ESCAP/808)

Restructuring the Developing Economies of Asia and the Pacific in the 1990s (ST/ESCAP/879)

Environment

Desertification in the Indus Basin Due to Soil Salinity and Waterlogging - A Case Study (ST/ESCAP/707)

Environmental Impact Assessment Guidelines for:

Agricultural Development (ST/ESCAP/783)

Industrial Development (ST/ESCAP/784)

Transport Development (ST/ESCAP/785)

Water Resources Development (ST/ESCAP/786)

Environmental Management of Mountain Ecosystems in Asia and the Pacific (ST/ESCAP/788)

ESCAP Environment News (quarterly)

"Audio-visual module on the coastal environmental situation in Pakistan"

"Audio-visual module on desertification from a regional perspective"

Human settlements

Building Technology Series: *Building Materials and Construction Technologies for Low-cost Housing in Developing ESCAP Countries* (revised) (ST/ESCAP/576/Rev.1)

Report of the Workshop on Kampung Improvement and Integrated New Settlement Development (ST/ESCAP/747)

Training Seminar for Trainers in Community Participation in Human Settlements Programmes: With Focus on Land Acquisition, Housing Finance, and Income-generating Activities for the Urban Poor, Quezon City, Philippines, 20-26 September 1988 (ST/ESCAP/748)

Industrial development

Small Industry Bulletin for Asia and the Pacific (ST/ESCAP/SER.M/42), No. 24

International trade, development finance and tourism

Directory of Trade Promotion/Development Organizations of Developing Countries and Areas in Asia and the Pacific, fourth edition (ST/ESCAP/722)

ESCAP Tourism Review:

No. 2 (ST/ESCAP/646); No. 3 (ST/ESCAP/689)

ESCAP Tourism Review Newsletter, No. 1, December 1989

Foreign Investment Incentive Schemes:

5 - *Bangladesh* (ST/ESCAP/756)
6 - *Thailand* (ST/ESCAP/775)

Guide to the Japanese Market - A Marketing Aid for Asian and Pacific Exporters, third edition (ST/ESCAP/772)

Pacific Harmonized Customs Tariff Schedule: Cook Islands (ST/ESCAP/694); *Kiribati* (ST/ESCAP/695); *Niue* (ST/ESCAP/696); *Solomon Islands* (ST/ESCAP/693); *Tonga* (ST/ESCAP/697); *Tuvalu* (ST/ESCAP/698)

Prices of Selected Asia/Pacific Products (monthly)

TISNET Trade Information Sheet (biweekly)

Traders' Manual for Asia and the Pacific: Indonesia (ST/ESCAP/730); *Maldives* (ST/ESCAP/721); *Philippines* (ST/ESCAP/711); *Republic of Korea* (ST/ESCAP/729); *Sri Lanka* (ST/ESCAP/749)

"TIS QUICK"

"Trade information sources data bank" (bimonthly)

"Trade information sources directory" (quarterly)

Natural resources

Asian-Pacific Remote Sensing Journal, vol. 2, Nos. 1 and 2

Atlas of Mineral Resources of the ESCAP Region, vol. 5, *Sri Lanka* (ST/ESCAP/718); vol. 6, *Socialist Republic of Viet Nam* (ST/ESCAP/831)

Atlas of Urban Geology, vol. 4, *Geology for Land-use Planning in Asia* (ST/ESCAP/839)

Development and Conservation of Groundwater Resources and Water-related Natural Disasters and their Mitigation in Selected Least Developed Countries and Developing Island Countries in the ESCAP Region, Water Resources Series No. 66 (ST/ESCAP/SER.F/66)

ESCAP Atlas of Stratigraphy VIII: Stratigraphic Correlation of Sedimentary Basins in Afghanistan and Australia, Mineral Resources Development Series No. 58 (ST/ESCAP/819); and *IX: Triassic Biostratigraphy and Paleogeography of the Asian and Pacific Region*, Mineral Resources Development Series No. 59 (ST/ESCAP/823)

Guidelines for the Preparation of National Master Water Plans, Water Resources Series No. 65 (ST/ESCAP/SER.F/65)

Industrial Minerals in Asia and the Pacific, vol. 5, *Ceramic and Refractory Minerals, Mineral Concentrations and Hydrocarbon Accumulations in the ESCAP Region* (ST/ESCAP/691)

Inventory of Remote Sensing Facilities and Activities in the ESCAP Region (supplement to the *Report of the Working Group Meeting of the National Contact Points of the Regional Information Service on Remote Sensing*) (ST/ESCAP/733)

Manual for the Optical-chemical Processing of Remotely Sensed Imagery (ST/ESCAP/809)

Register of Remote Sensing Projects in the ESCAP Region, 2nd edition (ST/ESCAP/799)

Remote Sensing Newsletter, vol. 6, No. 4 and vol. 7, Nos. 1 and 2

Report of the Fifth Session of the Intergovernmental Consultative Committee on the ESCAP/UNDP/Regional Remote Sensing Programme and Proceedings of the Meeting of the Directors of the National Remote Sensing Centres/Programmes in the ESCAP Region (ST/ESCAP/650), and of the sixth session (ST/ESCAP/751)

Report of the Pilot Project on Coastal Zone Studies in Viet Nam and Proceedings of the Regional Seminar on the Application of Remote Sensing Techniques to Coastal Studies and Environmental Monitoring (ST/ESCAP/845)

Report of the Symposium on Remote Sensing Applications for Resource Development and Environmental Management, Karachi, Pakistan, 23-26 July 1989 (ST/ESCAP/773)

Report of the Working Group Meeting on Education and Training in Remote Sensing for the ESCAP Region, Wuhan, China, 11-14 October 1988 (ST/ESCAP/688)

Report of the Working Group Meeting of the National Contact Points of the Regional Information Service on Remote Sensing, Bangkok, 15-26 November 1988 (ST/ESCAP/701)

Report of the Working Group Meeting on the National Management and Optimum Utilization of Remote Sensing Technology in the ESCAP Region (ST/ESCAP/853)

Report of the Workshop on the Application of Remote Sensing to Flood Plain Mapping and Flood Monitoring (ST/ESCAP/848)

Report of the Workshop on Geographic Information Systems, Bangkok, 21-29 November 1988 (ST/ESCAP/726)

Report of the Workshop on Remote Sensing for Land and Sea Resource Surveys and Evaluation in the Pacific: Applications, Co-ordination and Training (ST/ESCAP/805)

Training in Water Resources Development through Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries (ST/ESCAP/758)

The Triennial Review of Mineral Development Activities in the ESCAP Region, 1985-1987, Mineral Resources Development Series No. 57 (ST/ESCAP/764)

Water Resources Journal (quarterly)

"Confluence", Nos. 13 and 14, 1989

Energy

Background Issues of Oil Supply Trading in Pacific Island Countries, Energy Resources Development Series No. 32 (ST/ESCAP/821)

Electric Power in Asia and the Pacific, 1985 and 1986 (ST/ESCAP/720)

Policies for Rational Use of Energy (ST/ESCAP/741)

Rational Use of Electricity for Socio-economic Development with Emphasis on Rural Electrification (ST/ESCAP/840)

Rural Energy Technology: Biomass Conversion (ST/ESCAP/794)

Study on New Biogas Developments in the Asian and Pacific Region (ST/ESCAP/818)

Techniques and Methods for the Reduction of Transmission and Distribution Losses: Asian Efforts (ST/ESCAP/844)

"ESCAP's Energy News", vol. VI, No. 2

Population

Asian Population Studies Series No. 86-E, *Knowledge and Attitudes of Grassroots Family Planning Workers about Contraceptive Methods - India* (ST/ESCAP/738); No. 86-F, *ibid., the Philippines* (ST/ESCAP/736); No. 91, *The Impact and Efficiency of Family Planning Programmes* (ST/ESCAP/722); No. 92, *Frameworks for Population and Development Integration*, vol. I, *ESCAP Regional Perspectives* (ST/ESCAP/685); No. 93, *ibid.*, vol. II, *Bangladesh, Nepal, the Philippines, Thailand* (ST/ESCAP/686); No. 99, *Emerging Issues of Population Aging in Asia and the Pacific* (ST/ESCAP/810); No. 100, *Population and Development: Studies and Training in Asia and the Pacific, 1985-1988* (ST/ESCAP/739); No. 101, *Report of the Asia-Pacific POPIN Consultative Workshop, 26 October-3 November 1989, Bangkok* (ST/ESCAP/744); No. 102, *Consequences of Population Change in Asia: A Methodological Guideline* (ST/ESCAP/792)

Asia-Pacific Population Journal, vol. 4, No. 2 (ST/ESCAP/740); No. 3 (ST/ESCAP/770); No. 4 (ST/ESCAP/782)

Catalogue of ESCAP Population Publications: 1987-1989 (ST/ESCAP/800)

Directory of Computerized Population Databases, Services, Products and Software in the Asian and Pacific Region (ST/ESCAP/834)

Population Headliners, Nos. 169-182

Population Research Leads, No. 31, *Population Policies and Programmes in the 1990s: Trends and Prospects*; No. 32, *Population Change and the Environment*; No. 33, *Population Aging in the Context of Urbanization and Industrialization*

Training in the Use of Microcomputers in the Field of Population (ST/ESCAP/675)

"Asia-Pacific POPIN Bulletin", vol. 1, Nos. 1-4

"1989 ESCAP Population Data Sheet"

"Introducing the ESCAP Population Division" (Divisional brochure)

Science and technology

Directory of Marketable Technology of the ESCAP Region (ST/ESCAP/858)

Standardization and Related Activities in Selected Member Countries of the Asian and Pacific Region (ST/ESCAP/778)

Statistics

Asia-Pacific in Figures, 1990 (ST/ESCAP/822)

Censuses of Population and Housing in Asia and the Pacific: Towards the 1990 Round (ST/ESCAP/724)

Foreign Trade Statistics of Asia and the Pacific, 1983-1987 (ST/ESCAP/774)

Manual on Training of Statisticians (ST/ESCAP/660)

Statistical Indicators for Asia and the Pacific (five issues)

Statistical Newsletter (quarterly)

Statistical Yearbook for Asia and the Pacific, 1989 (ST/ESCAP/793)

Transport I (transport and communications)

ESCAP Guide to Railway Training (ST/ESCAP/757)

Report of a Meeting of Senior Exports on Development of Integrated Transport Planning, Bangkok, 13-16 March 1989 (ST/ESCAP/732)

Report of a Seminar-cum-Study Tour on the Toll Road System in Japan (ST/ESCAP/728)

Study on Increasing the Operating Speed of Various Freight Vehicles of the State Railway of Thailand (ST/ESCAP/708)

Training Course on Excessive Rail/Wheel Wear and Derailments for Indian Railways, Pune, India, 7-21 January 1989 (ST/ESCAP/755)

Training Course on the Haulage of Heavy Train-loads in China, Beijing, 22-27 August 1988 (ST/ESCAP/734)

Transport and Communications Bulletin for Asia and the Pacific, Nos. 60 (ST/ESCAP/SER.E/60) and 61 (ST/ESCAP/SER.E/61)

Transport II (shipping, ports and inland waterways)

ESCAP/UNDP Port Financial/Economic Planning Model User Manual, vol. I (ST/ESCAP/750)

Essays on Maritime Legislation, vol. I (ST/ESCAP/691); vol. II (ST/ESCAP/846)

Impact of Shipboard Automation on Manpower Development and Training Requirements (ST/ESCAP/768)

Low-cost Dredging Technology (ST/ESCAP/849)

Proceedings of a Seminar on the Dredging Contract, Bangkok, September 1988 (ST/ESCAP/737)

Report of Country-level Workshop on Operational Aspects of Freight Forwarding (ST/ESCAP/713)

Report of the Seminar on Container Terminal Operations in ASEAN Ports, Bangkok, 17-21 April 1989 (ST/ESCAP/760)

Report of Subregional Workshops on Operational and Training Aspects of Freight Forwarding (ST/ESCAP/715)

Review of Developments in Shipping, Ports and Inland Waterways in the ESCAP Region 1988 (ST/ESCAP/692)

Social development

Annotated Bibliography on Women in Development in Asia and the Pacific, vol. II (ST/ESCAP/804)

Case Studies on Strengthening Co-ordination between Non-governmental Organizations and Government Agencies in Promoting Social Development (ST/ESCAP/815)

Community-based Disability Prevention and Rehabilitation: Guidelines for Planning and Management (ST/ESCAP/743)

Compendium of Drug Abuse Prevention, Treatment and Rehabilitation Programmes (ST/ESCAP/817)

Compendium of Social Development Indicators in the ESCAP Region (ST/ESCAP/753)

Consumer Protection Issues in Asia and the Pacific (ST/ESCAP/803)

Data Base on Drug Abuse in the ESCAP Region: A Preliminary Exercise (ST/ESCAP/776)

Directory of National Focal Points for the Advancement of Women in Asia and the Pacific (revised edition) (ST/ESCAP/802)

Directory of Women's Periodicals in Asia and the Pacific (ST/ESCAP/766)

Equalization of Opportunities and Community-based Rehabilitation: Reports of a Workshop and a Study Attachment in the Field of Disability (ST/ESCAP/779)

Guidelines on Upgrading the Legal Status of Women (ST/ESCAP/832)

Handbook on Community Awareness Programmes Concerning Disability (ST/ESCAP/824)

Momentum: An Asia-Pacific Forum on Youth-related Concerns, Nos. 11 and 12

Proceedings of the Expert Group Meeting-cum-Field Study on Skills Training for Rural Youth, China, 16-25 September 1988 (ST/ESCAP/807)

Proceedings of the Expert Group Meeting on Policy and Planning Guidelines for Human Resources Development, Seoul, 6-10 March 1989 (ST/ESCAP/725)

Proceedings of the Meeting of Senior Officials on Human Resources Development in the ESCAP Region, Bangkok, 17-19 January 1989 (ST/ESCAP/742)

Regional Directory of Government Agencies and Non-Governmental Organizations Working for the Mobilization of Youth for Development (ST/ESCAP/816)

Regional Survey of Community Participatory Approaches to the Provision of Basic Community Health Services (ST/ESCAP/781)

Report of the Expert Group Meeting on Adolescence and Crime Prevention in the ESCAP Region, Tokyo, 3-10 August 1989 (ST/ESCAP/769)

Report of the Meeting on Youth Development in Asia and the Pacific, Bangkok, 22-24 May 1989 (ST/ESCAP/761)

Report of the Training Seminar on Advanced Social Planning for Integrated Socio-economic Development, Bangkok, 27 June-15 July 1988 (ST/ESCAP/680)

Review of Youth Policies in the ESCAP Region (ST/ESCAP/801)

Social Development Newsletter, Nos. 17 and 18 (special double issue), and 19

Status of Women in Asia and the Pacific Region, Series 1-5 (reprint of 1985 publication) (ST/ESCAP/417)

Studies on the Integration of the Aging in Development: Legislation, Social Security and Social Services (ST/ESCAP/763)

Study on Indicators for the Assessment of Social Conditions and Trends (ST/ESCAP/777)

Study on Measures to Enhance the Contribution of Non-governmental Organizations to Social Development (ST/ESCAP/811)

The Socio-economic Impact of Rural Development Programmes on Low-income Groups (ST/ESCAP/671)

WINAP Newsletter, Nos. 4 and 5

"Social aspects of human resources development: the quality-of-life dimension" (E/ESCAP/697)

Transnational corporations

Asia-Pacific TNC Review, ESCAP/UNCTC Publication Series A, No. 6 (ST/ESCAP/746)

Environmental Aspects of Transnational Corporation Activities in Pollution-intensive Industries in Selected Asian and Pacific Developing Countries, ESCAP/UNCTC Publication Series B, No. 15 (ST/ESCAP/857)

The Socio-economic Impact of Transnational Corporations in the Fast Food Industry, ESCAP/UNCTC Publication Series B, No. 14 (ST/ESCAP/638)

B. *List of meetings*

Food, agriculture and rural development

Interagency Task Force on Integrated Rural Development for Asia and the Pacific, Bangkok, April and June 1989; February and May 1990

Regional Training Course on Port Handling of Mineral Fertilizers in the Asian-Pacific Region, Bangkok and Singapore, April 1989

Seminar on Import Management of Chemical Fertilizers, Helsinki, May-June 1989

Workshop/Training Course on Farm Video Production in Fiji, Viti Levu, June 1989

Training Workshop on Satellite Crop Monitoring, Bangkok, June-July 1989

Expert Group Meeting to Appraise the Impact of International Agricultural Price Stability on Primary Producers, Bangkok, August 1989

Regional Seminar on Fertilizer Sector Development in the South Pacific, Alafua, Samoa, September 1989

Evaluation Meeting on Socio-economic Constraints on the Use of New and Renewable Energy Technologies in Rural Areas, Bangkok, October 1989

IFA/FADINAP South-East Asia and the Pacific Regional Fertilizer Conference, Cairns, Australia, October 1989

FADINAP/NFIS Regional Consultation on Provision of Information Services to End Users, Bangkok, November 1989

Seminar on Linkages between Agricultural Development and Rural Industrialization, Wuxi, China, December 1989

Second Regional Review Meeting on Participatory Rural Development, Bangkok, December 1989

Governing Board of the Regional Co-ordination Centre for Research and Development of Coarse Grains, Pulses, Roots and Tuber Crops in the Humid Tropics of Asia and the Pacific (eighth session), Bogor, Indonesia, January 1990

Interagency Committee on Integrated Rural Development for Asia and the Pacific, Bangkok, May 1990

Development issues and policies

Consultative Meeting of Experts on ESCAP Least Developed Countries, Bangkok, April 1989

Training Course on Multi-purpose Development Planning of River Basins, Moscow and Novosibirsk, May-June 1989

ESCAP/UNDP Regional Seminar on Project Planning and Implementation for Island Least Developed Countries, Port Vila, June 1989

Seminar on Fiscal Decentralization, Resource Mobilization and Effective Use of National Resources for Development, New Delhi, September 1989

Seminar on Urban Development Planning, Moscow and Leningrad, September-October 1989

Expert Group Meeting on Preparations for the United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Bangkok, October 1989

Study Tour on China-ASEAN Economic Relations, to ASEAN Countries, October 1989

Workshop on Debt Management, Bangkok, October 1989

Expert Group Meeting on Development Issues and Policies, Bangkok, December 1989

Regional Seminar on an Interlinked Country Model System (eighth session), Bangkok, January 1990

Intergovernmental Meeting on ESCAP Least Developed Countries in Preparation for the United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Bangkok, February 1990

Training Course on Construction and Integration of Material and Finance Balances, Moscow, May-June 1990

Environment

Training Seminar on Environmental Management in Bangladesh, Dhaka, May 1989

ESCAP/UNDP Regional Seminar-cum-Study Tour on Soil Conservation and Soil Salinity Control, Khon Kaen, Thailand, July 1989

ESCAP/UNDP Regional Seminar-cum-Study Tour on Sand Dune Fixation and Afforestation, Islamic Republic of Iran, August 1989

ESCAP/UNDP Second Regional Consultative Group Meeting on Strengthening of the Regional Network of Research and Training Centres on Desertification Control in Asia and the Pacific, Jodhpur, India, September 1989

Ad Hoc Expert Group Meeting on Integration of Environment into Development, Manila, October 1989

ESCAP/UNDP Meeting of Eminent Persons on Greening the Development Process, Bangkok, October 1989

ESCAP/World Bank/UNDP Regional Workshop on Strengthening the Conservation and Management of Critical Ecosystems in Asia and the Pacific, Bangkok and Khao Yai, November 1989

Regional Media Workshop on Environmentally Sound and Sustainable De elopment in Asia, Beijing, December 1989

ESCAP/UNDP Regional Meeting of Experts, Local-level Government Officials and Non-governmental Organizations on Desertification Control in the Asian and Pacific Region, Jodhpur, India, December 1989

Regional Seminar for Environmental Journalists, Kuala Lumpur, December 1989

ESCAP/UNDP/World Bank Project Design Workshop on Strengthening Training for the Conservation and Management of Critical Ecosystems in Papua New Guinea and the Pacific, Port Moresby, March 1990

ESCAP/UNDP Regional Seminar-cum-Study Tour on Integrated Land Use and Sustainable Forest Management, Yangon, Yezin, Myanmar, March-April 1990

ESCAP/UNDP Regional Workshop on Environmental Management and Sustainable Development in the South Pacific, Suva, April 1990

Expert Group Meeting on the Report on the State of the Environment in Asia and the Pacific, Bangkok, April-May 1990

ESCAP/UNDP Regional Seminar-cum-Study Tour on Rangeland Management, Alice Springs, Australia, May 1990

ESCAP/UNDP/UNEP/UNEPCOM Expert Group Meeting on Assessment, Mapping and Monitoring of Desertification and Establishment of a Desertification Information System in the ESCAP and ACSAD Regions, Ashkhabad, USSR, May 1990

Human settlements

Consultative Expert Group Meeting on Developing Building Component Industries through Application of Updated Modular Co-ordination Rules, Bangkok, May 1989

Consultative Expert Group Meeting on Preparation of Guidelines on Innovative Community-based Housing Finance and Credit Systems for Low-income Households, Bangkok, May 1989

Second Seminar-cum-Training Programme on Urban Transport in Asia, Yokohama, Japan, July 1989

Workshop on Housing and Settlements Improvement, Nagoya, Japan, August-September 1989

Workshop on Local Housing Programmes with Focus on the Partnership between City Authorities and People, Ho Chi Minh City, October 1989

Senior-level Seminar on Low-income Housing Policy and Appropriate Technology, Shanghai, China, November 1989

Meeting of the General Council of the Regional Network of Local Authorities for the Management of Human Settlements, Shanghai, China, November 1989

Consultative Meeting on Audio-visual Documentation on Women's Initiatives for Participatory Development, Bangkok, December 1989

National Policy Seminar on Urban Land Management in Bangladesh, Dhaka, January 1990

Regional Policy Seminar on Innovative Community-based Housing Finance and Credit Systems for Low-income Households, Bangkok, May-June 1990

Industrial development

Consultative Meeting on the Selection of Projects for Investment Promotion, Kathmandu, April 1989

Regional Seminar on Transfer of Technology for Small and Medium Industries, Seoul, July 1989

ESCAP/UNIDO Joint Programme Development Meeting, Bangkok, December 1989

ESCAP/UNCTC/UNIDO Workshop on Transfer of Technology for Entrepreneurial Development in Bangladesh, Dhaka, March-April 1990

Third Symposium on Business Collaboration Meeting between Entrepreneurs from Nepal and the Federal Republic of Germany, Cologne, Federal Republic of Germany, April-May 1990

International trade, development finance and tourism

Steering Committee for the Asian International Silk Fair'90 (first session), Bangkok, April 1989; (second session), Munich, September-October 1989; (third session), Bangkok, January 1990

ESCAP/ITC Regional Workshop for National Computer Consultants, Bangkok, June 1989

Expert Group Meeting on Pests and Diseases of Mulberry Trees and Silkworms, Bangkok, June 1989

GATT/ESCAP Regional Seminar on GATT and the Uruguay Round for Least Developed Countries of Asia and the Pacific, Bangkok, June 1989

Regional Seminar on the GSP Scheme of Japan, Bangkok, June 1989

Second Meeting of Senior Trade Information Officials on the Regional Trade Information Network, Bangkok, September 1989

Symposium on Trade and Economic Co-operation between China and the Asia-Pacific Region, Beijing, October 1989

Intergovernmental Consultative Forum of Developing Tropical Timber Producing/Exporting Countries (fourth session), Manila, October 1989

Workshop on the Use of Econometric Models for Commodity Policy Formulation, Bangkok, October-November 1989

ESCAP/UNCTAD/CCC National-level Seminar/Workshop on Trade Facilitation, Kathmandu, November 1989

Subregional Workshop for Women Executives on Export Marketing, Chiang Mai, Thailand, December 1989

Meeting of Experts of the Government Consultation Among Jute Producing Countries on Project Formulation, New Delhi, January 1990

Workshop on Standardization and Grading of Raw Silk and Cocoons, Hangzhou, China, January 1990

Meeting of National Trade Facilitation Bodies, Manila, January-February 1990

Expert Group Meeting on the Promotion of Intraregional Trade in Vegetable Oils, Bangkok, April 1990

Seminar on the External Dimensions of a Single European Market, Impact and Opportunities, Bangkok, April 1990

GATT/ESCAP Regional Workshop on the Uruguay Round for Asian Developing Countries, Bangkok, April-May 1990

Second Round of Negotiations under the Bangkok Agreement (fourth session, resumed), Bangkok, May 1990

Regional Consultative Group on Silk (fifth session), Bao Loc, Viet Nam, May 1990

Meeting of Directors of National Trade Development and Promotion Agencies, Bangkok, May 1990

Workshop on Human Resources Development in the Tourism Sector, New Delhi, May 1990

Natural resources

Regional Training Course on Optical-chemical Processing of Remote Sensing Imagery, Beijing, April-May 1989

Expert Group Meeting to Review and Finalize Draft Guidelines for the Preparation of National Master Water Plans, Bangkok, May 1989

Interagency Task Force on Water for Asia and the Pacific (twenty-third session), Bangkok, May 1989; (twenty-fourth session), Bangkok, November 1989; (twenty-fifth session), Bangkok, May 1990

Seminar on Urban Geology for Planners and Decision Makers: Planning the Urban Environment, Kuching, Malaysia, May 1989

Workshop on Epithermal Gold Mineralization, Tsukuba, Kyushu, Japan, May 1989

ESCAP/FAO/WMO Training Course on the Use of Visible Infra-red and Radar Systems in Hydrological and Agrometeorological Applications, Canberra, May-June 1989

Meeting of the Directors of the National Remote Sensing Centres/Programmes in the ESCAP Region; sixth session of the Intergovernmental Consultative Committee; and Tripartite Review Meeting for the Regional Remote Sensing Programme, Manila, June 1989

Second Expert Group Meeting on Comprehensive Flood Loss Prevention and Management, Bangkok, July 1989

Symposium on Remote Sensing Applications for Resource Development and Environmental Management, Karachi, Pakistan, July 1989

Workshop on Remote Sensing for Land and Sea Resources Survey and Evaluation in the Pacific: Application, Co-ordination and Training, Port Vila, August 1989

Regional Seminar on the Application of Remote Sensing Techniques to Coastal Studies and Environmental Monitoring, Hanoi, September 1989

Seminar on Water Quality Monitoring in the Asian and Pacific Region, Beijing, September 1989

UNESCO/ESCAP Seminar on Quaternary Stratigraphy of Asia and the Pacific, Ipoh, Malaysia, September 1989

Seminar-cum-Study Tour on Modern Methods in Mineral Exploration, Tbilisi, USSR, October-November 1989

Typhoon Committee (twenty-second session), Tokyo, October-November 1989

International Symposium on Circum-Pacific Volcanism and Metallogeny, Nanjing, China, November 1989

Seminar on the Use of Microcomputers in Water Resources Development, Bangkok, November 1989

Study Tour on Investigating, Planning and Managing Coastal Lowlands Using Polders, the Netherlands, November 1989

AARS/ESCAP Tenth Asian Conference on Remote Sensing, Kuala Lumpur, November 1989

Workshop Group Meeting on the Commercialization of Remote Sensing Activities, Kuala Lumpur, November 1989

Workshop on the Application of Remote Sensing to Flood Plain Mapping and Flood Monitoring, Dhaka, December 1989

Working Group Meeting on National Management and Optimum Utilization of Remote Sensing Technology in the ESCAP Region, Jakarta, January 1990

WMO/ESCAP Panel on Tropical Cyclones (seventeenth session), Dhaka, January-February 1990

Expert Group Meeting on Urban Flood Loss Prevention and Mitigation in the ESCAP Region, Bangkok, April 1990

Regional Workshop on Three Dimension Technology from Space Imagery, Bangkok, April 1990

Seminar on Remote Sensing Applications for Oceanography and Fishery Environment Analysis, Beijing, May 1990

Energy

Training in Energy Planning: Special Programme for Least Developed Countries, Vientiane, April 1989; Thimphu, November 1989

Second Training Course on the Reduction of Transmission and Distribution Losses, Seoul, May-June 1989

Tripartite Review Conference of the Regional Energy Development Programme (third session), Bangkok, August 1989

Regional Workshop on Sectoral Energy Demand Studies and Special Session of the Tripartite Review Conference of the Regional Energy Development Programme, Bangkok, November-December 1989

Population

Preparatory Expert Group Meeting on Consequences of Population Change in Asia, Bangkok, June 1989

Asian and Pacific Seminar on Population Aging, Kuala Lumpur, July 1989

Study Directors' Meeting on Urbanization and Socio-economic Development in the ESCAP Region, Bangkok, September 1989 and February 1990

Workshop on Data Communications and Microcomputers for Population Programme Managers and Policy Makers in the ESCAP Region, Seoul, September 1989

Second Study Directors' Meeting on the Study of the Accessibility of Contraceptive Methods, New Delhi, September 1989

Workshop on Analysis and Interpretation of Family Planning Services Statistics using Microcomputers, Bangkok, October 1989

Asia-Pacific POPIN Workshop on Micro-ISIS Software and the Production of Population Directories and Data Bases, Bangkok, October-November 1989

Second Intercountry Workshop on ASEAN Population Information Networks, Chiang Mai, Thailand, November 1989

National Workshop for Thai Participants on the Use of Microcomputers for Demographic Analysis, Survey Data Processing and Family Planning Evaluation, Bangkok, November 1989

Study Directors' Meeting on the Consequences of Population Change in Asia, Bangkok, January 1990

Science and technology

TCDC exchange of study visits between China and Thailand on planning, development and evaluation of policies in science and technological development, March-April 1989 and May 1989

UNCSTD/ESCAP Workshop on Advanced Materials Technology and Development for Asia and the Pacific, Minsk, USSR, May-June 1989

Ad Hoc Expert Group Meeting on Integration of Women into Technological Development, Bangkok, September 1989

Asian and Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology, Technical Advisory Committee (fifth session), Bangkok, November 1989

Asian and Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology, Governing Board (fourth session), Bangkok, November 1989

Regional Workshop on Electricity Conservation in Commercial and Domestic Subsectors, Bangkok, November-December 1989

Seminar on Technological Rehabilitation of Small Foundry Industries, Bangkok, December 1989

Regional Network for Agricultural Machinery, Technical Advisory Committee (fourteenth session), Kathmandu, December 1989

Regional Network for Agricultural Machinery, Governing Body (twelfth session), Kathmandu, December 1989

Seminar on Development and Popularization of Appropriate Industrial Technology for Food Storage and Processing in the Pacific Island Countries, Port Vila, April 1990

Statistics

Workshop on Computer-assisted Coding, Christchurch, New Zealand, April 1989

Workshop on Transport Statistics, Moscow, May-June 1989

ESCAP/SIAP Advanced Course on Projections for Social and Economic Planning, Bangkok, June 1989

ESCAP/SIAP Seminar on Managing National Statistical Services in the 1990s, Bangkok, July-August 1989

Fifth Training Course on Electronic Data Processing, New Delhi, August-November 1989

ESCAP/SIAP Advanced Course on Statistics on the Informal Sector, Bangkok, October-November 1989

UNICEF/ESCAP Training Workshop on Social Indicators for Children and Women in the Asia-Pacific Region, Bangkok, November-December 1989

Training of Trainers Course on Sampling and Household Survey Methodology, New Delhi, November-December 1989

Sixth Training Course on Sampling and Household Survey Methodology, New Delhi, February-May 1990

Workshop on Economic Classifications for Population Censuses and Surveys, Bangkok, April-May 1990

Seminar on Design and Evaluation of Household Sample Surveys, Beijing, May 1990

Transport I (transport and communications)

Training Course on Identification of Derailment Causes for the Railways of China, Beijing, July 1989

Training Course on Optimal Standards for Design, Construction and Maintenance of Rural Roads in Humid Areas, New Delhi, July-August 1989

Seminar on Energy Conservation and Substitution in the Transport Sector, Bangkok, September 1989

Expert Group Meeting on Computerized Wagon Control Systems, Bangkok, October 1989

Seminar-cum-Study Tour on Railway Research with Particular Emphasis on Measures for Speed-up on Metre Gauge Lines in Developing Countries, Vadodara, India, November 1989

Asian and Pacific Railway Co-operation Group Meeting on Subgroup 3: Railway Research, New Delhi, November 1989

Expert Group Meeting on the Adaptation of Training Course Materials for the Training Course on Optimal Standards for Design, Construction and Maintenance of Rural Roads in Humid Tropics, Bandung, Indonesia, November 1989

Training Course on Optimal Standards for Design, Construction and Maintenance of Rural Roads in Arid and Semi-arid Areas, New Delhi, November-December 1989

Intergovernmental Railway Group Meeting (sixth session), Bangkok, November-December 1989

Workshop on Modern Inspection and Maintenance Procedures for Railway Structures, Bangkok, January-February 1990

Training Course on Optimal Standards for Design, Construction and Maintenance of Rural Roads in Humid Tropics, Bandung, Indonesia, January-February 1990

First and Second Co-ordinating Meetings of the Feasibility Study and Design of the Thai-Myanmar Bridge, Bangkok/Mae Sot, February 1990 and March-April 1990

Working Group Meeting for Demonstration of Cost-effective Railway Signalling and Telecommunications System (sixth session), Bangkok, June 1990

Transport II (shipping, ports and inland waterways)

Seminar on Container Terminal Operations in ASEAN Ports, Bangkok, April 1989

Subregional Workshop III: Maritime Transport for Shippers - Training of Training Managers (Advanced Course) (for FASC countries), Bangkok, April 1989; (for ASCOBIPS countries), Colombo, May-June 1989

ESCAP/UNCTAD Country-level Workshop on Multimodal Transport, Madras, India, May 1989

ESCAP/UNDP Seminar on Port Financial/Economic Planning Model, Bangkok, May-June 1989

Regional Maritime Strategy Study Advisory Group Meeting (second session), Bangkok, June 1989

Country-level Workshop on Upgrading of Dredging Capabilities, Bangkok, July 1989

Country-level Workshop on Planned Maintenance of Inland Water Transport Terminals, Nanjing, China, August 1989

Seminar on Improved Port Operations and Management, Leningrad, USSR, August 1989

Regional Seminar on Economic and Technical Operation of Inland Waterway Fleets, Bangkok, August 1989

Meeting of Chief Executives of National Shippers Organizations (tenth session), Seoul, October 1989

ESCAP/UNCTAD Workshop on Multimodal Transport, Bombay, India, October 1989

Country-level Workshop on Upgrading of Dredging Capabilities, New Delhi, October 1989

Seminar-cum-Study Tour on the Impact of Containerization on Port Development, Labour Requirements and Modern Construction Techniques, Japan/Malaysia, October 1989

Port Management Services Seminar for Chief Executives of Indian Ports, Madras, India, October-November 1989

Regional Seminar on Dredging-related Hydrographic Surveying, Bangkok, October-November 1989

ESCAP/UNDP Fellowship on Port Computerization, Malaysia, November 1989

ESCAP/UNDP Fellowship on PORTMIS and Port Computerization, Thailand, November 1989

Seminar-cum-Study Tour on Inland Waterways, United States of America, November 1989

Workshop on Port Financial/Economic Planning Model, Madras, India, November 1989; Suva, November-December 1989

ESCAP/South Pacific Ports Association Container Terminal Workshop, Auckland, New Zealand, November-December 1989

Country-level Workshop on Inland Water Transport, Jakarta, December 1989

Working Group on Training of Freight Forwarders (third session), Bangkok, December 1989

ESCAP/UNCTAD Subregional Workshop on Multimodal Transport, Karachi, Pakistan, December 1989

Expert Group Workshop on Port-related Legislation (first session), Bangkok, December 1989

Regional Seminar on Maritime Legislation, Bangkok, January 1990

Meeting of Chief Executives of Port Authorities (eighth session), Bangkok, January 1990

Seminar on Port Marketing, Bangkok, January 1990

Regional Seminar on Optimization of Maintenance Dredging and Low-cost Dredging Techniques, Goa, India, February 1990

Meeting of Chief Executives of National Freight Forwarders Associations (fourth session), Penang, Malaysia, February 1990

ESCAP/Australia Port Middle Management Fellowships, Western Australia, March-April 1990

Country-level Workshop on the ESCAP/UNDP Port Financial and Economic Planning Model, Tianjin Port, China, April 1990

Seminar on Implementation of ESCAP/UNDP Model Port Tariff Structure, Bangkok, April 1990

ESCAP/UNCTAD Country-level Workshop on Multimodal Transport, Lahore, Pakistan and Calcutta, India, May 1990

Country-level Workshop on Improving the Efficiency of Navigation Locks, Nanjing, China, May 1990

Regional Maritime Strategy Study: Third Expert Advisory Group Meeting, Bangkok, May-June 1990

Social development

Expert Group Meeting on Policy and Planning Guidelines on Human Resources Development, Seoul, March 1989

Meeting on Youth Development in Asia and the Pacific, Bangkok, May 1989

Workshop on the Management of Women's Information Centres (for East and South-East Asian countries), Bangkok, May-June 1989; (for

Pacific island countries), Port Vila, November 1989

Expert Group Meeting on the Integration of Women's Concerns in Development Planning, Bangkok, June 1989

Regional Workshop on the Equalization of Opportunities for Disabled Persons through Community-based Services, Khon Kaen, Thailand, June 1989

Expert Group Meeting on Adolescence and Crime Prevention in the ESCAP Region, Tokyo, August 1989

Regional Seminar on Social Development Situations, Policies and Planning Approaches, Seoul, September 1989

International Course on the Youth in Entrepreneurship Programme, Malaysia, October 1989

Workshop on Curriculum Planning for National Drug Abuse Prevention Programme Development, Bombay, India, December 1989

Expert Group Meeting on Educational Reform to Enhance Youth Participation in Development in the ESCAP Region, Bangkok, December 1989

Preparatory Group Meeting to Plan for the Training of Youth Trainers in Rural and Urban Youth Work in the ESCAP Region, Bangkok, January 1990

Workshop on the Classification of Target Groups in Drug Abuse Prevention in Thailand, February 1990

Expert Group Meeting on a Quality of Life Survey, Bangkok, February 1990

World Conference on Education for All - Meeting Basic Learning Needs, Jomtien, Thailand, March 1990

Workshop on Drug Dependency Prevention Programme Development, Beijing, April 1990

Workshop on Community-based Drug Abuse Prevention Programme Development, Manila, May 1990

Subregional Workshop on Training of Trainers in Urban and Rural Youth Work, Malaysia, May-June 1990

Transnational corporations

ESCAP/UNCTC/UNEP Expert Group Meeting on Environmental Management of Transnational Corporations in Pollution-intensive Industries in the ESCAP Region, Bangkok, May 1989

Symposium on Transnational Technology Towards the Year 2000 in the ESCAP Region, Bangkok, April 1990

C. *List of advisory and other services*

Food, agriculture and rural development

(a) Bangladesh, to the sixth technical committee of the Centre on Integrated Rural Development for Asia and the Pacific, Dhaka;

(b) Bangladesh, India, Nepal and Pakistan, on pesticide data collection and the use of IPHYTROP, the computerized plant protection data base;

(c) Bangladesh, China, India, Indonesia, Nepal, Republic of Korea and Thailand, through the Asian Productivity Organization, on rural poverty alleviation;

(d) Cook Islands, Fiji, Papua New Guinea, Samoa and Tonga, on improving fertilizer information systems;

(e) Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City, to present ARSAP activities and include Viet Nam in the *Regional Agro-pesticide Index;*

(f) India, training on fertilizer marketing management development programme, Shimla;

(g) Lao People's Democratic Republic, on pesticide distribution and marketing;

(h) Pakistan, on fertilizer logistics;

(i) Thailand, to the Department of Agricultural Extension, on matters relating to information needs for the fertilizer sector;

(j) Viet Nam, on the reduction of fertilizer losses;

(k) International Co-operative Alliance - TCDC (UNDP) bilateral discussions, Delhi, May 1990;

(l) Twenty-sixth and twenty-seventh meetings of the FAO/UNIDO/World Bank Working Group on Fertilizer Supply and Demand Forecasts, Rome, May 1989 and Washington D.C., May 1990.

Development issues and policies

(a) Bangladesh, Bhutan, China, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Maldives, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Singapore, Sri Lanka and Vanuatu, to assist the Governments with projects in the field of development issues and policies;

(b) Viet Nam, in co-operation with the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs, United Nations, to advise on a study of the Vietnamese economy.

Environment

(a) The Asian Forum of Environmental Journalists and its associated national forums, in its activities for the period 1989-1990;

(b) South Pacific Regional Environment Programme, for the organization of the Regional Training Course on Environmental Impact Assessment and for meetings of its Steering Committee;

(c) The Office of the National Environment Board of Thailand, in support of its Sixth Workshop on Watershed Classification in Thailand, Pattaya, March 1989;

(d) The establishment of a programme office of DESCONAP in Tehran;

(e) ASEAN, on the energy policy implications for Asia and the Pacific of the greenhouse effect;

(f) Asian organizations on conservation of natural resources, on the role of ESCAP in the management and conservation of critical ecosystems;

(g) SPREP, to advise on its work programme and institutional aspects;

(h) Solomon Islands, on drafting environmental legislation;

(i) Thailand, on training of personnel in predictive models as part of the pilot study of Thailand's eastern seaboard;

(j) Tonga, on the follow-up of the environmental management plan recommendations, particularly for holding a workshop to discuss the recommendations.

To strengthen the environmental dimensions of the Commission's programme of work, a number of activities were undertaken in co-operation with the following divisions:

(a) With the Energy Resources Section of the Natural Resources Division, on prospective consumption of fossil fuels in the Asian and Pacific region, its climatic implications and the alternative energy policy options for energy supply security in the twenty-first century; and on environmentally sound coal utilization and the economic implications of emerging new technologies;

(b) With the Water Resources Section of the Natural Resources Division, on the technical aspects of a workshop on sustainable and environmentally sound development of water resources;

(c) With the International Trade and Tourism Division, on tourism carrying capacity in the mountainous regions of Nepal; and preliminary activities on the incorporation of environmental considerations in tourism and associated development planning;

(d) With the Statistics Division, on environmental statistics;

(e) With the Transport and Communications Division, preliminary activities on the incorporation of environmental considerations in port development planning.

Human settlements

(a) Bangladesh, to assist in the planning and organization of a policy seminar on urban land management;

(b) Dhaka, on a consultative mission in relation to the modular co-ordination project, and to conduct a one-day symposium;

(c) Ho Chi Minh City, to assist in the planning and organization of a workshop on local housing programmes with focus on the partnership between city authorities and people;

(d) India, Indonesia, Pakistan, Republic of Korea and Sri Lanka, on consultative missions to support implementation of the programme for training of trainers on rural centre planning;

(e) Indonesia, for preparatory discussions on a seminar-cum-training course on rural centre planning, to be organized in 1990;

(f) Seoul, for preparatory discussions on a regional seminar to promote public awareness on the issues and policies of low-income shelter and settlement, to be organized in 1990;

(g) Shanghai, China, to finalize arrangements for the meeting of representatives of the Regional Network of Local Authorities for the Management of Human Settlements;

(h) Small Pacific island developing countries, Fiji, Samoa and Vanuatu, on a field survey mission for the project on assistance in human resources development for improvement of shelter and settlements planning in the least developed countries;

(i) The Presidential Commission for the Urban Poor, Philippines, from Grameen Bank, Bangladesh, to start the Community Bank

Industrial development

(a) Bangladesh, to assist the Ministry of Textiles in the preparation of an investment plan for implementation of the textile policy;

(b) China, to advise the State Science and Technology Commission, Dalian Science and Technology Commission and Shaanxi Provincial Science and Technology Commission on promotion of small and medium-scale industries relating to the aspects of financing, marketing and wage determination;

(c) Malaysia: (i) to advise on the management and organizational structure of Selangor Agricultural Development Corporation and to evaluate its investment projects; and (ii) to advise the Government on establishing a system for monitoring progress in industrial development and draw up a programme to promote industrial estates in Pahang;

(d) Viet Nam: (i) to advise and assist in developing programmes for joint ventures and technology transfer for industrial development; and (ii) to advise on the organization of an investment forum as well as provide advisory services for the establishment of an export processing zone.

Technology

(a) Apia, Honiara, Port Moresby, Port Vila, Suva and Tongatapus, to prepare a subregional report on the status of activities in participating countries regarding the implementation of the project on development and popularization of appropriate industrial technology for food storage and processing;

(b) China, to participate in the tenth session of the Advisory Committee for Science and Technology for Development;

(c) China and India, to assist the central consultant in conducting the national seminar on REDP sub-activity L-1.1, "Training in electricity conservation in commercial/domestic subsectors";

(d) China, Indonesia, Republic of Korea and Singapore, to collect information on the state-of-the-art of the development of micro-electronics and biotechnology in the above-mentioned countries and identify areas of regional co-operation in these fields;

(e) India: (i) to finalize the TCDC project on engineering design and consultancy services; and (ii) to hold discussions in the committee established to oversee follow-up activities relating to the Seminar on Powder Metallurgy held at Bombay;

(f) Republic of Korea, on a consultative mission for preparation of the Workshop-cum-Study Tour on the Perspective and Policy Issues of Biotechnology;

(g) Republic of Korea, with experts from China, to promote TCDC in the field of biotechnology;

(h) Lao People's Democratic Republic, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Philippines and Republic of Korea, to prepare a study for the regional report on the development of small-scale foundry industries with special reference to their technological rehabilitation and national policies with respect to small foundries.

(i) Thailand: (i) to the Thailand Institute of Scientific and Technological Research (TISTR), to discuss and identify possible joint activities between TISTR and ESCAP in the field of new and advanced materials aimed at assisting countries of the region; and (ii) to the Thai Industrial Standards Institute, to discuss future co-operative activities in the areas of quality control techniques, food processing, common use of established testing facilities of regional countries, and training activities in the area of quality control and certification at the enterprise level.

International trade, development finance and tourism

(a) Bangladesh: technical assistance to jute producing countries on project ideas;

(b) China: (i) on holding a national workshop on sources of trade information and monitoring the progress of the project on trade information; and (ii) on national mobile seminars on trade promotion, marketing and investment;

(c) Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Guam, Republic of the Marshall Islands and Republic of Palau, on the implementation of the Harmonized Commodity Coding Scheme for trade statistics;

(d) Cook Islands, Kiribati, Niue, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga and Tuvalu, on the Harmonized Commodity Coding Scheme;

(e) Hong Kong, technical assistance to the Government on agricultural development policy;

(f) India, technical assistance to jute producing countries in formulating project ideas/ profiles for the development of the jute industry;

(g) Indonesia: (i) technical assistance to the Asian and Pacific Coconut Community (APCC); and (ii) on holding a training programme on the application of the Computerized Trade Information Service (CTIS) for staff of the National Agency for Export Development (NAFED) and APCC;

(h) Malaysia: (i) technical assistance to the Government on post-harvest losses in cocoa, coffee and coconut; (ii) on monitoring the progress of the project on trade information; and (iii) technical assistance to the International Natural Rubber Organization (INRO);

(i) Pakistan: (i) on monitoring the progress of the project on trade information; (ii) on tourism development issues; and (iii) on assessing the training needs and identifying the items to be covered in the national-level seminar/workshop on trade facilitation;

(j) Papua New Guinea, on the organization, functioning and management of the national trade facilitation body;

(k) Philippines, on monitoring the progress of the project on trade information and on the installation of Computerized Trade Information Service data bases at the Bureau of Export Trade Promotion and the Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry, as well as conducting training on the application of software packages;

(l) Sri Lanka, on monitoring the progress of the project on trade information and on resource planning for the development of the trade information services of the Sri Lanka Chamber of Commerce;

(m) Thailand: (i) on providing training to the staff of the Department of Export Promotion, Board of Trade of Thailand and the Thai Chamber of Commerce in the application of computer software packages for trade information services; (ii) on the development of the Computerized Trade Information Service for the Department of Export Promotion, the Board of Trade and the Thai Chamber of Commerce; and (iii) on a project proposal for establishment of a rubber-training college.

Natural resources

(a) Bangladesh, on coal exploration;

(b) China, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Malaysia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Philippines and Thailand, on urban flood loss prevention;

(c) China, Indonesia, Philippines and Thailand, on water resources;

(d) Indonesia and Papua New Guinea, to prepare for the Second Workshop on Epithermal Gold Mineralization;

(e) Malaysia: (i) to assist in setting up a data base on mineral resources; and (ii) on coal exploration in Sarawak and Sabah;

(f) Mongolia, on coal exploration projects;

(g) Myanmar, on gold exploration projects around Mandalay City;

(h) Thailand, on coal exploration in Serm Ngam Basin, Lampang Province;

(i) Viet Nam: (i) on coal exploration, and to prepare an international symposium on coal exploration to be held in 1990; and (ii) to prepare a training course in geochemical exploration.

Energy

(a) Afghanistan, to advise on the feasibility of the establishment of a coal briquetting plant and the development of a petrochemical industry;

(b) Brunei Darussalam, to advise on feasibility and methods of coal exploration, to review coal mining legislation and advise on government action required to minimize the environmental impact of coal development;

(c) Malaysia, on aspects of development and utilization of coal resources available in Sarawak to substitute for imported coal, and on aspects of coal handling and evaluation;

(d) Mongolia, to provide advice and make recommendations on aspects of information collection, the development of a coal-chemicals complex, and substitution of oil with coal where possible, coal liquefaction, low-temperature pyrolysis, and integrated study on coal quality, product requirements, and process options;

(e) Myanmar, to study ways and means for better utilization of local coals and to study improvements in coal preparation methods;

(f) Philippines, to advise on a briquetting project, and to provide a techno-economic report on the feasibility of the process;

(g) Thailand, to give lectures, review and make recommendations on aspects of clean coal technology, bore core handling and lignite evaluation, and use of low-quality coal; and to evaluate the efficacy of a chemical additive in spontaneous combustion control to improve storage of indigenous lignites.

Population

(a) Bangladesh, Malaysia and Philippines, on implementation of country studies on the consequences of population change in Asia;

(b) China, Malaysia, Maldives, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka and Viet Nam, for national population information centres;

(c) China, Malaysia, Republic of Korea and Sri Lanka, on the implementation of country studies on emerging issues of the aging of population;

(d) China, Nepal and Viet Nam, for tripartite reviews of UNFPA country projects;

(e) China and Viet Nam, to conduct in-service training courses on population information management;

(f) Hong Kong, to direct a country course on the implications of population growth for social sector planning;

(g) India, Indonesia, Mongolia and Philippines, to provide technical services on integrated population and development plans and policies;

(h) Nepal, on analysis of sample civil registration data;

(i) Pakistan, on the development of a country study on the emerging issues of population aging;

(j) Republic of Korea, to co-ordinate a POPIN workshop on communications and microcomputers for population programme managers;

(k) Viet Nam, to lecture on demographic analysis and assist in the development of a project document on demographic analysis of population census data.

Statistics

(a) Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, China, Lao People's Democratic Republic (twice), Malaysia (twice), Tonga and Viet Nam (twice), to assist with various aspects of population statistics and vital registration systems;

(b) Brunei Darussalam, Fiji, Hong Kong, Philippines, Republic of the Marshall Islands, Thailand and Tonga, to review and advise on the collection and analysis of national accounts;

(c) Brunei Darussalam, India (twice), Indonesia, Malaysia (twice), Maldives, Pakistan, Republic of Korea and Thailand, to advise and assist in the collection, compilation, analysis and dissemination of energy statistics, to review and develop energy statistics systems, to conduct seminars and assist with an energy census;

(d) Brunei Darussalam, Hong Kong, Lao People's Democratic Republic (twice), Malaysia, Maldives (twice), Nepal (twice), Papua New Guinea (twice), Philippines, Samoa, Tonga, Vanuatu (twice) and Viet Nam (five times), to assist in planning, conducting, processing, tabulation, analysis and preparation of reports of population censuses and demographic surveys;

(e) China, Indonesia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia (twice), Maldives, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea and Samoa, on various aspects of processing population statistics, including development of an information management system, a data processing system for surveys, production of census tables, organization and training of personnel in computer systems, and use of software packages;

(f) Indonesia (twice), Nepal, Tonga and Viet Nam (twice), in connection with the formulation of project documents for UNFPA assistance in census and vital statistics systems;

(g) Lao People's Democratic Republic, on the reformulation of a project on strengthening national capabilities in statistics and microcomputing;

(h) Myanmar, Thailand and Tonga, on the use of government information systems and computerization;

(i) Samoa, Tonga and Vanuatu, on various aspects of household surveys, including surveys on household economic activities and household income and expenditure;

(j) Thailand, on the formulation of a project on a statistical databank;

(k) Tonga and Viet Nam, on general statistical organization and development.

Secretariat staff delivered lectures and/or made technical presentations: (i) at a training programme and workshop on energy data held in the Philippines; (ii) at workshops on the management of women's information centres, held at Bangkok and in Vanuatu; (iii) at a national workshop in India on statistics and indicators of women; (iv) at a SIAP country course on national accounts in Bangladesh; (v) at the SIAP general statistics course in Tokyo; (vi) at NHSCP training courses at New Delhi, on sampling and household survey methodology and on electronic data processing; (vii) at the Xian Institute of Statistics, China, on population statistics; (viii) to the Steering Committee of the Statistical Computing Project Phase II, at Vienna; (ix) at the Fifth International Meeting of Heads of ASEAN National Statistical Offices; (x) at various expert group meetings on the reconciliation of SNA/MPS Standards on national accounting and on SNA co-ordination, in Geneva, Moscow and New York; (xi) at SPC/ESCAP expert group meetings on

census design; (xii) at a national seminar on energy, in Malaysia; and (xiii) at a training course on human resources planning, at Kuala Lumpur.

Transport I (transport and communications)

(a) China, on the setting up of a test programme to evaluate various load spectra acting between rail and vehicles on the main trunk routes of the Railways of China; and on integrated transport planning;

(b) Indonesia, on integrated transport planning;

(c) Malaysia, on the setting up of a test programme to evaluate speed increases of rolling stock of Malayan Railways; and on integrated transport planning;

(d) Pakistan, on integrated transport planning;

(e) Philippines, on maintenance of and improvements in the rolling stock of the Philippines National Railways with regard to derailments; on air transport; on integrated transport planning; and on a survey of a dredger;

(f) Thailand, on integrated transport planning.

Transport II (shipping, ports and inland waterways)

(a) Bangladesh, on the preparation of short-, medium- and long-term development plans for the Port of Chittagong and on identification of needs and requirements of dredging and inland water transport; technical assistance in relation to flood mitigation;

(b) Brunei Darussalam, on dredging;

(c) Cook Islands, on maritime legislation;

(d) Federated States of Micronesia, on port improvements in Yap State and fisheries facilities in Truk State;

(e) Fiji, on port infrastructure and operations in the outer islands, phase I: maritime legislation;

(f) India, on PORTMIS and port computerization (Visakhapatnam); and on the application of a financial/economic planning model to Nhava Sheva Port, Bombay;

(g) Pakistan, on PORTMIS, port computerization, and port tariffs, pricing, and investment (Port Quasim Authority); and on improvements in the maintenance of rolling stock of the Pakistan Railways;

(h) Papua New Guinea, on maritime legislation; and on strengthening the management and operation of its national shippers' council;

(i) Republic of the Marshall Islands, on maritime legislation;

(j) Samoa, on maritime legislation;

(k) Sri Lanka, on the application of a financial/economic planning model to Colombo Port Container Terminal expansion;

(l) Thailand, on the implementation of PORTMIS and port computerization;

(m) Tuvalu, on required improvements in the port areas at Funafuti Wharf arising from containerization;

(n) Viet Nam, on port computerization; and on container operations, management and documentation procedures.

Social development

(a) Afghanistan, Brunei Darussalam, Indonesia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Mongolia and Thailand, to assist in strengthening national structures and mechanisms for the integration of women in development, including promotion of women's participation in development;

(b) Bangladesh, Hong Kong, India, Republic of Korea, Thailand and Viet Nam, to assist in strengthening social development policies and programmes and in the training of social development personnel;

(c) Brunei Darussalam, Papua New Guinea, Singapore and Thailand, to assist in strengthening policies and programmes on crime prevention and the rehabilitation of offenders;

(d) Fiji, Indonesia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, New Caledonia, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Solomon Islands, Thailand, Vanuatu and Viet Nam, on the facilitation of human resources development policies and programmes in the ESCAP region;

(e) India and Myanmar, in the field of health and development, with particular reference to the promotion of community services and assistance in the demand aspect of drug abuse control;

(f) Brunei Darussalam, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines and Republic of Korea, to assist in the strengthening of national efforts to mobilize the participation of youth in development.

Chapter III

FORTY - SIXTH SESSION OF THE COMMISSION

A. Attendance and organization of work

103. The forty-sixth session of the Commission was held at the Central Plaza Hotel, Bangkok, from 4 to 13 June 1990.

104. The session was attended by representatives of the following members and associate members: Afghanistan, Australia, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, China, Fiji, France, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Japan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Maldives, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Samoa, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Tonga, Tuvalu, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Vanuatu, Viet Nam, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Hong Kong, Kiribati and Republic of the Marshall Islands.

105. By virtue of rule 3 of the Commission's rules of procedure, representatives of Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Czechoslovakia, Egypt, Federal Republic of Germany, Hungary, Israel, Norway and Sweden attended. A representative of the Holy See also attended under Council decision 244 (LXIII).

106. The session was also attended by officials from United Nations Headquarters, representing the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Co-ordination of Cambodian Humanitarian Assistance Programmes and the United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations.

107. Representatives of the following United Nations bodies attended: United Nations Children's Fund, United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, United Nations Development Programme, United Nations Development Fund for Women, United Nations Environment Programme, United Nations Population Fund, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, World Food Council and World Food Programme.

108. Representatives of the following specialized agencies were present in a consultative capacity: International Labour Organisation, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, International Civil Aviation Organization, World Health Organization, International Monetary Fund, Universal Postal Union, International Telecommunication Union, World Meteorological Organization, International Maritime Organization and United Nations Industrial Development Organization.

109. Representatives of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade and the World Tourism Organization also attended.

110. The following intergovernmental organizations attended as observers: Asian Clearing Union, Asian Development Bank, Association of Natural Rubber Producing Countries, Asian and Pacific Coconut Community, Asian and Pacific Development Centre, Asian Productivity Organization, Asia-Pacific Telecommunity, Asian Reinsurance Corporation, Commission of the European Communities, Committee for Co-ordination of Joint Prospecting for Mineral Resources in Asian Offshore Areas, Colombo Plan, Forum Secretariat, International Jute Organization, Interim Committee for Co-ordination of Investigations of the Lower Mekong Basin, International Organization for Migration, International Pepper Community, South Pacific Applied Geoscience Commission, South Pacific Commission and Typhoon Committee.

111. Observers were present from the following non-governmental organizations in category I: International Co-operative Alliance, International Council of Women, International Council on Social Welfare, International Federation of Business and Professional Women, International Organization for Standardization, International Union of Local Authorities, World Confederation of Labour, World Federation of Democratic Youth, World Federation of United Nations Associations, World Muslim Congress and Zonta International; and from the following organizations in category II: Baha'i International Community, International Federation on Ageing, Pan-Pacific and South-East Asia Women's Association and World Assembly of Small and Medium Enterprises. Representatives of the Institute of Developing Economies of Japan and the National Economic and Social Development Board of Thailand also attended.

112. The list of participants is given in document ESCAP(XLVI)/INF.4/Rev.2.

113. In accordance with rule 13 of the rules of procedure, the Commission at its 694th meeting elected the Hon. Berenado Vunibobo, Minister for Trade and Commerce, Fiji, Chairman.

114. In view of the heavy agenda, it was proposed that the part of rule 13 of the rules of procedure of the Commission providing for the election of two Vice-Chairmen be held in abeyance, and the following 15 Vice-Chairmen were elected: H.E. Mr. Liu Huaqiu (China), H.E. Mr. A. Sreedharan (India), H.E. Mr. Masoud Nili (Islamic Republic of Iran), H.E. Mr. Ichiji Ishii (Japan), H.E. Mr. Kithong Vongsay (Lao People's Democratic Republic), the Hon. Datuk Dr. Sulaiman Haji Daud (Malaysia), H.E. Mr. B. Sharavsambuu (Mongolia), the Hon. Dr. B.P. Dhital (Nepal), the Hon. John Giheno (Papua New Guinea), H.E. Mr. L.V. Alailima (Samoa), H.E. Dr. Seet Ai Mee (Singapore), H.E. Air Chief Marshal Siddhi Savetsila (Thailand), the Hon. Dr. Alesana K. Seluka (Tuvalu), the Hon. Donald Kalpokas (Vanuatu) and H.E. Mr. Dang Nghiem Bai (Viet Nam).

115. Mr. Bayazid Mardukhi (Islamic Republic of Iran) was elected Rapporteur of the plenary session.

116. The Chairman proposed and the Commission decided to appoint two Committees of the Whole to consider agenda items 6, 7 and 8. Committee of the Whole I elected H.E. Mr. Chung Choo-Nyun (Republic of Korea) Chairman and Mr. Murray Cobban (Australia) and Mr. C.T. Elangasekere (Sri Lanka) Vice-Chairmen. Mr. Ismail Abdul Gadir (Maldives) was elected Rapporteur. Committee of the Whole II elected H.E. Mr. Josue L. Villa (Philippines) Chairman and Ms. Aswita Wanda Mulia (Indonesia) and Mr. Kenji Shimizu (Japan) Vice-Chairmen. Mr. B.N. Sapkota (Nepal) was elected Rapporteur. The Commission also decided to constitute an informal working group on draft resolutions under the chairmanship of Mr. B.A.B. Goonetilleke (Sri Lanka), to consider draft resolutions presented during the session. Mr. Kh. Zaheer Ahmed (Pakistan) and Mr. Surenguin Badral (Mongolia) were elected Vice-Chairmen of the informal working group.

117. The Chairman announced at the Commission's 697th meeting that, in accordance with rule 12 of the rules of procedure, he and the Vice-Chairmen, constituting the Credentials Committee, had examined the credentials of all the representatives. One member of the Credentials Committee rejected the credentials of a delegation. Two members expressed their support for the views of the same delegation. Some other members held that the credentials of the aforesaid delegation were in order. With those views and reservations recorded, the Chairman and Vice-Chairmen constituting the Credentials Committee found the credentials of all the representatives to be in order.

B. Agenda

118. At its 694th meeting, the Commission unanimously adopted the following agenda:

1. Opening addresses.

2. Election of officers.

3. Adoption of the agenda (E/ESCAP/L.113/Rev.2 and Corr.1, E/ESCAP/L.114 and Corr.1-3).

4. Policies and perspectives for the economic and social development of the ESCAP region:

   (a) Review of the development of the ESCAP region and the work of the Commission (ST/ESCAP/820 (English only), ST/ESCAP/820/Add.1 (Chinese, French and Russian only), E/ESCAP/700, E/ESCAP/742);

   (b) Review and appraisal of the implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade, and preparations for the international development strategy for the fourth United Nations development decade (E/ESCAP/701);

   (c) Review and appraisal of the implementation of the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries, and preparations for the United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries (E/ESCAP/702).

5. Restructuring the developing ESCAP economies in the 1990s (E/ESCAP/703 and Corr.1 and 2).

6. Issues and programmes in various fields of activity of ESCAP:

   (a) Reports of legislative committee meetings held since the forty-fifth session of the Commission and selected issues in different sectors (E/ESCAP/694 and Corr.1, E/ESCAP/695 and Corr.1, E/ESCAP/696 and Corr.1, E/ESCAP/697 and Corr.1, E/ESCAP/698 and Corr.1 and Add.1, E/ESCAP/699, E/ESCAP/704, E/ESCAP/705, E/ESCAP/706, E/ESCAP/707, E/ESCAP/708, E/ESCAP/709, E/ESCAP/710, E/ESCAP/711, E/ESCAP/712 and Corr.1, E/ESCAP/713, E/ESCAP/714, E/ESCAP/715, E/ESCAP/716, E/ESCAP/717, E/ESCAP/743, E/ESCAP/744, E/ESCAP/746);

   (b) Shelter strategies towards the year 2000 (Commission resolution 268 (XLIV)) (E/ESCAP/718);

   (c) Transport and Communications Decade for Asia and the Pacific, 1985-1994; review of progress of implementation (E/ESCAP/719);

   (d) Progress reports on regional institutions, special regional projects and other regional bodies (E/ESCAP/720 and Corr.1, E/ESCAP/721 and Corr.1, E/ESCAP/722, E/ESCAP/723, E/ESCAP/724, E/ESCAP/725, E/ESCAP/726, E/ESCAP/727, E/ESCAP/728, E/ESCAP/729, E/ESCAP/730).

7. Programme planning:

   (a) Draft medium-term plan, 1992-1997 (E/ESCAP/731 and Corr.1);

   (b) Proposed programme changes for 1990-1991 (E/ESCAP/732 and Corr.1-3, E/ESCAP/733, E/ESCAP/734 and Corr.1, E/ESCAP/745).

8. Economic and technical co-operation among developing countries (E/ESCAP/735).

9. Special problems faced by the Pacific island countries: the Commission's activities in the Pacific (E/ESCAP/736 and Add.1).

10. Review of the conference structure of the Commission (E/ESCAP/737).

11. Announcement of intended contributions (E/ESCAP/738 and Corr.1 and 2, E/ESCAP/739).

12. Activities of the Advisory Committee of Permanent Representatives and Other Representatives Designated by Members of the Commission (E/ESCAP/740 and Add.1).

13. Date, venue and any other subject pertaining to the forty-seventh session of the Commission (E/ESCAP/741, E/ESCAP/747).

14. Other matters.

15. Adoption of the report of the Commission (E/ESCAP/L.115).

C. Account of proceedings

119. The session was declared open by His Excellency Mr. Khumbagyn Olzvoy, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of Mongolia, the outgoing Chairman. His Excellency General Chatichai Choonhavan, Prime Minister of Thailand, delivered the inaugural address. The Executive Secretary read out a message from the Secretary-General of the United Nations and delivered an address.

Inaugural address by the Prime Minister of Thailand

120. The Prime Minister of Thailand, speaking on behalf of the people and Government of Thailand, welcomed those attending the session.

121. The work of the Commission was of great significance to the future of the countries in the region. The region was a vast one, embracing over half of the world's population. There existed in the region a great diversity in geography, culture, and political and ideological systems, as well as levels of development. Yet, amidst its diversity and vastness, there was a growing sense of community among nations of the region.

122. There was increasing recognition of the need to share the burdens and responsibilities of maintaining peace and security and of promoting progress and prosperity. It was essential for nations to pool resources, and share expertise and experience in order to arrive at collective approaches and co-operative efforts to deal with the manifold problems of economic and social development.

123. The spirit of interdependence and co-operation was embodied in the role and mission of ESCAP. Over the years, ESCAP had become an important vehicle for promoting awareness of the inter-dependence of and the need for regional co-operation among the nations of Asia and the Pacific. ESCAP stood out as the only regional body where the entire spectrum of development issues could be addressed. Those issues were all interrelated and had a direct bearing on the welfare and well-being of the nations and peoples of the region. The projects and programmes that ESCAP had undertaken had brought hope and opportunities to millions of people.

124. In pondering over the role of ESCAP in meeting the challenges and opportunities that lay ahead, there was a need to be guided by a common vision of the future. The decade of the 1990s held out the promise of world peace and harmony. In that context, the redoubling of efforts, in a spirit of true interdependence and genuine co-operation, to strengthen the bonds of peace through economic development and common prosperity, was all the more necessary. There was a need to cast aside old prejudices and past differences and to explore new and innovative approaches to common problems. Above all, there was a need to work together with a common purpose to ensure a better and brighter future for the citizens of Asia and the Pacific.

Message from the Secretary-General of the United Nations

125. In his message, the Secretary-General of the United Nations noted that the encouraging improvement in the international political climate, including the relaxation of East-West tension, as well as progress in resolving some regional conflicts, had enhanced prospects for peace. The enjoyment of basic human and political rights had expanded significantly. In that improved atmosphere, the possibilities for international co-operation which had long remained closed were now opening up, and the importance of social progress and better standards of living for all peoples had been highlighted. It was also evident that progress achieved in the political sphere might prove unstable if the economic climate remained adverse for the bulk of the world's population.

126. He noted that the special session of the General Assembly on international economic co-operation, which had met in April 1990, marked what was hoped would be a resumption of a broad-based North-South dialogue on pressing development issues such as the debt crisis and the continuing net transfer of resources to developed countries. In that connection, the efforts made by several industrial countries, especially Japan, deserved acknowledgement.

127. The economic and technological gap between the developing and developed countries had continued to increase. There was need for an improved external economic environment which, together with domestic efforts, would lead to revitalized growth and development. A successful conclusion of the Uruguay Round should include benefits for the developing countries, including agricultural trade. The problems confronting developing countries especially dependent on commodity exports also required alleviation on a priority basis.

128. The new possibilities for dealing with persistent problems in the economic and social sectors had regional as well as global dimensions. Although the Asian and Pacific region had led the world with relatively vigorous average growth rates throughout

the 1980s, most of the region's least developed and Pacific island economies had achieved scant progress. The more disadvantaged Asian and Pacific countries continued to need special attention, including additional assistance from the international community. Despite substantial progress in many respects, poverty, hunger, disease and illiteracy remained the unrelieved plight of hundreds of millions of Asians. Deficiencies in infrastructure and technology, aside from financial resources, also posed serious problems in many countries.

129. He noted that the Commission's agenda focused on a number of major development issues and expressed confidence that the discussion on restructuring the developing Asian and Pacific economies in the 1990s would result in useful policy guidelines for national and international action. He expressed confidence that the work of the Commission at its current session would reflect the traditional vitality, as well as the spirit of co-operation and sense of direction, that had become its hallmark.

130. He extended his best wishes to the Commission for a most productive and rewarding session.

Statement by the Executive Secretary of ESCAP

131. The Executive Secretary welcomed all the delegations to the session and thanked the Prime Minister of Thailand for his eloquent address which reaffirmed the commitment of Thailand to the development goals of the Commission as well as to the purposes and principles of the United Nations. He also conveyed sincere appreciation to the Foreign Minister of Thailand of his support for ESCAP activities.

132. He noted that in the vastly improved global political atmosphere, the current positive trends in world affairs not only strengthened peace prospects but also presented a host of opportunities. One was the new possibility for giving relatively undeflected attention to stubborn problems in the development sphere. In that connection, for Asia's impoverished masses, most important was the opportunity to extend to the economic and social sectors the same spirit of co-operation that had recently emerged in the political field. There were many areas where new, brighter opportunities beckoned for intensifying co-operation between members and associate members in, for example, trade, finance and investment, and in technological development. It was heartening that such opportunities for greater co-operation would be explored as part of the theme topic discussions at the current session. The secretariat hoped for a very positive outcome in that regard.

Policies and perspectives for the economic and social development of the ESCAP region

Policy statement by the Executive Secretary

133. The Executive Secretary observed that in the 1980s the developing Asian and Pacific region had earned a world-wide reputation for dynamism and resilience, while many developed and developing countries elsewhere were experiencing a sharp drop in their economic fortunes. Although the average growth of both the world economy and all developing countries had slowed in the 1980s, the average growth of the developing ESCAP region had accelerated from 5.3 per cent in the 1970s to almost 7 per cent in the 1980s. However, that growth had been rather sporadic and unevenly spread among the developing members and associate members. They had experienced the strongest growth, with a remarkable average rate of about 8 per cent, during the six years from 1983 to 1988. Slowing average growth in the late 1980s had raised some questions about the durability of the region's impressive growth momentum of the past decade.

134. He noted, moreover, that such overall dynamism had concealed marked variations in economic performance. Rapid growth in the newly industrializing economies and China in the 1980s had slowed markedly in 1988 and 1989. Though affected by falling commodity prices earlier in the decade, most South-East Asian countries, particularly Thailand, had staged a vigorous recovery since 1986, with less slow-down in growth late in the decade. The economic growth of South Asia had strengthened substantially in the 1980s, especially in India, whose rising growth rates in the latter half of the decade had compared favourably with those of most South-East Asian countries. The average growth rate of Pakistan had also risen. Growth had slowed to about 2-3 per cent late in the decade in Bangladesh, Nepal and Sri Lanka owing to various internal problems, and repeated natural disasters in the case of Bangladesh.

135. The Executive Secretary pointed out that many other developing Asian and Pacific countries, especially the least developed and Pacific island economies, had experienced poor growth, particularly in the latter part of the decade. In fact, population increase had exceeded economic growth in a number of least developed countries; in addition there had been frequent and costly natural disasters in many of the least developed and Pacific island countries. The Lao People's Democratic Republic and Viet Nam had experienced stronger economic growth recently after various reforms and policy changes to enhance economic flexibility, and Viet Nam had resumed rice exports. Through much of the 1980s, external or internal conflicts, or political problems, had had a dampening effect on economic growth in Afghanistan, Cambodia, the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Philippines and Sri Lanka.

136. Although on the average the developing region's economic performance in the 1980s had reached satisfactory levels, that should not lead to complacency. There were growing signs that recent dynamic growth could slow down unless the region's developing economies underwent suitable restructuring to meet various emerging external and domestic challenges. Some of the region's more dynamic economies, such as the newly industrializing economies and China, had already started to experience faltering growth rates. Various adverse factors were responsible: mounting inflation, currency realignments, labour shortages and rising wages, diminishing export competitiveness, social unrest, infrastructural constraints and environmental deterioration. Many developing countries of the region, in their efforts to spur growth rates, had also implemented adjustment measures, with frequent ill effects on the quality of life.

137. The Executive Secretary noted that rapid political and economic changes in the world economy demanded flexibility. Many of the region's developing countries had met such challenges successfully in the 1980s, mainly through individual efforts. However, a pattern of limited regional complementarity had begun to emerge among the more dynamic Asian economies, with Japan playing a central role. That trend had strengthened after the appreciation of the yen in 1985, and had led to a marked expansion of intraregional trade and investment flows among Japan, the newly industrializing economies and the ASEAN countries. However, a more concerted effort was needed to sustain and broaden the impact of growth in the 1990s, and the Executive Secretary stated that Japan and the Asian newly industrializing economies had a historic role to play in spreading the growth impulse to the region's weaker economies and in assisting them to join the mainstream.

138. Regionalism was becoming a potent stimulus to growth in the world economy and strengthened regional co-operation could be a powerful catalyst for national efforts to hasten restructuring of the region's developing economies. It would also assist in consolidating the region's growing interdependence, as evidenced by increasing intraregional trade and investment. The Executive Secretary therefore urged the Commission to deliberate seriously on the possibilities of greater regional co-operation among the developing economies, and on the need for a comprehensive framework for that purpose. Such a framework should not replace or duplicate any existing regional or subregional co-operative mechanisms. Instead, it would partly depend on them to find more effective ways to promote economic complementarity and to provide better and mutually beneficial opportunities for restructuring. While maintaining the strong commitment to an open multilateral trading system, the framework should seek to capitalize on the region's wide diversity in development levels, industrialization and resource endowments. Private sector and non-governmental organization initiatives should be promoted in addition to official interaction.

139. With regard to the regional co-operative framework itself, the Executive Secretary proposed, as a viable current option, the formation of an ESCAP council for regional economic co-operation within the Commission's evolving organizational structure, taking into account the Commission's guiding role as reflected in paragraph 157 of the report on its forty-fifth session and with no thought of proposing any new organizations. He felt that such a council could perform numerous deliberative and decision-making functions related to its primary objective of promoting economic co-operation and advantageous restructuring. As a specific forum for such matters, it could play a valuable catalytic role, rendering knowledgeable findings and timely suggestions and identifying research needs. He envisaged such a council to be the Governments' monitor of intraregional trade and investment, identifying trends, opportunities and unnoticed complementarities, among other means of fostering closer economic co-operation. The council could establish task forces for the implementation of various aspects of its work programme.

140. Regional co-operation offered worthwhile benefits, but was not a substitute for wider global co-operation and the strengthening of multilateral institutions. Restoring an orderly open world trading system and a supportive external economic environment was among such important issues to be addressed in detail in the international development strategy for the fourth United Nations development decade. A successful conclusion of the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations was also of crucial importance to the developing members, with market access vital to their export-led growth. Another major multilateral effort was the convening of the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries in Paris in September 1990. The 7.2 per cent growth target set in the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries had not been achieved by most of the region's 11 least developed countries. The main reasons had been a combination of natural disasters, other domestic difficulties, and various external impediments, including inadequate donor commitment to fulfil aid pledges. Those countries were looking to the 1990s with the strong hope that development was at last taking firm root. ESCAP would be working closely with UNCTAD on a new action plan for the least developed countries. The Executive Secretary appealed to all members and associate members to give strong support to United Nations efforts to make the Paris Conference a success.

141. The Pacific island countries, which were also confronted with serious, special problems and included four of the region's least developed countries, had received the Commission's enhanced attention in recent years. The secretariat had increased its technical assistance, mainly by strengthening the ESCAP Pacific Operations Centre (EPOC), which now had a full complement of technical experts able to mount advisory missions at short notice from the EPOC office at Port Vila. He was pleased to note the Pacific Governments' extensive use of EPOC services, and expressed much appreciation of the co-operation and support extended to it by Pacific members and associate members.

142. Turning to development problems, the Executive Secretary described the development of human resources as a critical key to the future of developing Asian and Pacific countries, disadvantaged and dynamic alike. The Commission had demonstrated concern about that problem and in 1988 had opted for a forward-looking strategy by adopting the Jakarta Plan of Action on Human Resources Development in the ESCAP Region. ESCAP had participated actively in and contributed to the outcome of the World Conference on Education for All - Meeting Basic Learning Needs, held at Jomtien, Thailand in March 1990. Already initiating follow-up action, in co-operation with UNESCO and other concerned bodies, ESCAP planned to convene a meeting to formulate a regional programme of action to give substance to the Jomtien decisions.

143. Asia's urbanization problem was reaching critical dimensions as populations increased, with available shelter, infrastructure and services already outgrown in many large cities. Urgent action was needed to slow mega-city growth, improve slum conditions, rejuvenate rural life and promote smaller urban communities. ESCAP activities had fostered a shelter improvement enabling strategy and forged inter-city co-operation, but much more needed to be

done. Infrastructural deficiency, causing strains in even some of the more dynamically advancing economies of the region, constituted another important area needing much more attention. The programme of the Transport and Communications Decade for Asia and the Pacific, 1985-1994 was under secretariat review, and further recommendations on its future direction would be submitted to the Commission in 1991.

144. The Executive Secretary expressed confidence that four forthcoming ministerial-level regional conferences mandated by the Commission for the period 1990-1992 would be both meaningful and useful in charting a regional course of action in their respective fields. Those were the Ministerial-level Conference on Environment and Development in Asia and the Pacific, scheduled to be held at Bangkok from 10 to 16 October 1990; the Fourth Asian and Pacific Ministerial Conference on Social Welfare and Social Development, planned to be held at Manila from 9 to 13 September 1991; the Meeting of Ministers of Industry and Technology, scheduled for 1991; and the Fourth Asian and Pacific Population Conference, scheduled for 1992. The environment and development conference to be held in October 1990 was of more immediate concern, and the complex problems involved called for a comprehensive response. Deforestation and desertification were believed to be the region's most serious and widespread problems and would be examined in a forthcoming authoritative survey and analysis of the region's critical environmental deterioration.

145. Concerning the effectiveness of the Commission's subsidiary intergovernmental structure, however, experience in recent years had not always been commensurate with expectations. The Commission itself had sought to remedy the drudgery of routine treatment given to sectoral concerns of developing members. To remain sensitive to their development aspirations, the ESCAP conference structure needed to be adjusted to respond fully to the members' development needs and to dynamic changes in and outside the region. The committee structure should also be able to further stimulate regional co-operation and to strengthen multidisciplinary approaches to development issues. A group of eminent persons would examine those matters in depth to assist the secretariat in preparing recommendations for the Commission's consideration at its forty-seventh session.

146. While regretting the need to hold the session away from ESCAP premises, he reported that construction work on the new conference complex was making satisfactory progress and was expected to be completed by November-December 1991; it was hoped that the complex would be ready for the Commission's forty-eighth session in 1992. No doubt the Commission would wish to ensure that the decor of the conference facilities reflected the cultural richness and diversity of the region's ancient civilizations.

147. He expressed deep gratitude to donor countries and agencies for enabling the secretariat to undertake technical assistance activities to the value of more than $US 20 million in 1989, and in particular to UNDP for its consistent and constructive co-operation that had added a fruitful new dimension to ESCAP operational activities.

148. In concluding, the Executive Secretary expressed mixed feelings of satisfaction with the region's average growth achievements in the 1980s and disappointment at many missed opportunities for more vigorous and balanced development. Euphoria over the successes should not obscure the fact that the vast majority of the world's poor were Asians, with underdevelopment still the basic syndrome in most developing economies of the region and unacceptable levels of deprivation - social, economic and political - for significant segments of society, even in the more dynamic economies. Though many developing economies still faced largely the same development agenda as at the outset, especially with regard to poverty, illiteracy and inadequate provision for basic human needs, future prospects were not necessarily bleak for those that squarely faced emerging challenges and realities and remained undaunted. Hopes for a brighter tomorrow for developing economies hardly seemed unfounded. He was confident that the session would contribute significantly towards realizing that hope, richly deserved and awaited long and patiently by the peoples of Asia and the Pacific.

Review of the development of the ESCAP region and the work of the Commission

149. The Commission expressed appreciation of the quality and comprehensiveness of the review of economic and social developments in the ESCAP region presented by the secretariat in the *Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific 1989*. It complimented the secretariat on including a detailed analysis of the structural problems of least developed and Pacific island countries as part two of the *Survey*.

150. The Commission commended the secretariat on highlighting in the *Survey* the momentous changes taking place in the world economic and political order, as well as the rapid pace of technological innovation and change, the increasing internationalization of production processes, and the resulting potential opportunities and challenges created for the developing countries. It saw considerable opportunity in the potential saving of military expenditure and the availability of additional resources for development, as well as in the expansion of markets through a more fully integrated world economy with the drawing into the mainstream of the economies of Eastern Europe which thus far had remained outside it. The Commission stressed the need for the developing countries of the ESCAP region to adapt and restructure themselves in order effectively to meet the challenges and seize the opportunities inherent in the situation.

151. Some delegations expressed concern at the possibility, at least in the short term, of available resources being diverted to Eastern Europe at the expense of the needs of the developing countries, as well as of increased competition for access to developed country markets. The Commission urged the international community to ensure that in the new and emerging world order the developing countries' needs were adequately met. In that context, the Commission noted with satisfaction the assurance of some developed countries that the additional resource needs of countries in other regions would not be met at the expense of the requirements of the developing countries of the ESCAP region.

152. The Commission noted the continuing dynamism of the ESCAP region and the rapid rate of economic growth achieved by many of the developing economies in the region. However, it expressed concern that there were considerable disparities in the economic performance of countries in the region and that in quite a number of the developing countries the pace of growth was slow, while the economic fundamentals in many others remained weak. The widening imbalance in the economic development of the region was a cause for concern. The Commission also expressed concern at the serious lag in the region's social development, one manifestation of which was the fact that the region accounted for the largest number of poor people in the developing world.

153. The Commission placed considerable importance on removing that imbalance. Special measures needed to be undertaken to stimulate economic growth and development, particularly for the least developed and the island developing countries, many of which suffered from unique structural problems and were often extremely vulnerable to natural calamities. Those developing countries of the region needed to undertake basic reforms and readjustments in their policies in order to restructure their economies. The Commission took note of the detailed account in part two of the *Survey* of the considerable efforts which many of them had already undertaken. It endorsed the view that a favourable and supportive international economic environment was essential to enable them to undertake such efforts successfully.

154. Noting the continued lag in meeting the social development needs of the developing countries of the ESCAP region, the Commission urged members and associate members to adopt measures and policies to effect improvements in areas such as poverty alleviation, income distribution and human resources development, with particular reference to social aspects such as population, health, education and the role of women. In that context the Commission welcomed the holding of the Fourth Asian and Pacific Ministerial Conference on Social Welfare and Social Development in the Philippines in 1991 and the Fourth Asian and Pacific Population Conference in Indonesia in 1992. The Commission noted with serious concern the increasing incidence of drug abuse in the region and urged members and associate members to take concerted action to curb those illegal activities, which were creating serious social and moral problems.

155. The Commission expressed deep concern at the deteriorating environmental situation facing the region. It viewed with grave concern the possible adverse effects of global warming on Pacific islands and other low-lying areas in Asia and the Pacific. In that context, the Commission welcomed the holding of the Ministerial-level Conference on Environment and Development in Asia and the Pacific, scheduled for October 1990, which could be expected to outline a regional strategy for environmentally sound and sustainable development in view of the critical deterioration of the environment in the region.

156. The Commission noted with concern that the international economy remained beset by a number of constraints and weaknesses. Critical elements of concern for the developing countries of the region were low levels of commodity prices, high real interest rates, unabated protectionism and lack of accessibility to markets, currency instability, and the debt problems of, and the inadequacy of financial resource flows to, the developing countries.

157. The Commission stressed the need for undertaking effective measures to revitalize the economic growth and development of the developing countries. In that context, it welcomed the new consensus reached at the recently concluded eighteenth special session of the United Nations General Assembly devoted to international economic co-operation, which had reaffirmed the need to revitalize the growth and development of the developing countries, including those of the least developed among them. The Commission felt that it was necessary to increase the flows of financial resources, including official development assistance, to the developing countries, in accordance with the targets laid down in the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade; to find an effective and equitable solution to the debt problem; and to assure better prices for primary export commodities by improving the functioning of the commodity markets and by diversification, processing, marketing and improving market access.

158. The Commission emphasized that it was necessary to eliminate or reduce trade barriers in order to facilitate a freer flow of international trade for the benefit of all countries. It expressed high hopes for the successful outcome of the current Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations for the establishment of an open multilateral trading system with special and differential treatment accorded to the developing countries.

159. The Commission stressed the need for enhanced regional co-operation among the ESCAP members as a means of revitalizing the region's economic and social development. It also emphasized that broader-based and closer co-operation could foster greater complementarity among the countries of the region, particularly among the developing countries, for trade and investment promotion.

160. The Commission commended the role of ESCAP during the past 40 years in promoting economic co-operation in the region, and expressed the hope that ESCAP would continue to play a vital role in forging a well co-ordinated, more integrated and balanced development of the vast Asian and Pacific region. Hope was expressed that the Commission and the secretariat would make added efforts to meet the challenges of the 1990s. The proposal for the establishment of a council for regional economic co-operation put forward by the secretariat to promote broader-based regional economic co-operation was discussed. The Commission mandated that the matter be further examined, taking into account the various views expressed. The details of the discussion on this subject are given in paragraphs 181-191 and 192-196 below.

161. The Commission reviewed the work of the Commission since the forty-fifth session, as presented in document E/ESCAP/700.

Review and appraisal of the implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade, and preparations for the international development strategy for the fourth United Nations development decade

162. The Commission had before it document E/ESCAP/701. The note by the secretariat was presented in two parts. The first part reviewed the performance of the developing ESCAP region in relation to some of the important economic and social development targets as set out in the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade. In the second part, the note focused on the emerging development issues in the region as the secretariat's input into the new international development strategy for the 1990s.

163. The Commission took note of the social and environmental concerns highlighted in the note by the secretariat, including the lack of improvement in income distribution in many poor Asian and Pacific countries, the tendency towards rising unemployment and underemployment, particularly in countries with large populations, deficiencies in provision of safe drinking water, sanitation and health services and the slow progress made in the area of education and literacy. Effective measures were also lacking to address the major environmental problems facing the region, such as deforestation, desertification, waterlogging and salinity, river pollution, industrial pollution and the depletion of marine resources.

164. In the light of the disappointing growth experience of many developing countries in the 1980s, and the emerging developmental issues in the 1990s, the Commission agreed that a comprehensive approach to development, in which the interrelated components of economic growth, social development and environmental protection were fully integrated, should form the basis for the international development strategy for the fourth United Nations development decade. From the viewpoint of countries in the ESCAP region, successful restructuring of developing countries would be essential, and would depend primarily on their own efforts.

165. The Commission was of the view that the strategy for the 1990s should include undertakings on the part of the international community to ensure that objectives were achieved and that the emphasis should be on requirements of long-term development rather than on short-term adjustment and processes. It was further felt that there could be some flexibility in establishing sectoral targets to take account of diversity among the developing economies and that it would be useful to include qualitative targets, such as shelter for all by the year 2000 and literacy for all by the year 2000.

166. The Commission endorsed the view that the region's main development concerns in the coming decade should include the need for accelerated growth of the world economy and a freer trading environment, the invigoration of capital inflows to developing countries, poverty alleviation and human resources development, and environmental protection.

167. The Commission took note of the intensification of major trends as well as emerging new tendencies in the international environment that were contributing to an increasingly complex and interdependent world economy. The international development strategy for the 1990s must therefore take account of the changing realities in the global environment and give the required emphasis to the co-operative efforts of the economies of the region to increase the resilience of the developing economies and assist them in dealing with the challenges of the world economic climate. In that context, the international community had a responsibility to support strongly the efforts of developing countries through the creation of a favourable international economic environment.

168. The Commission expressed concern over the fact that the majority of the least developed and island developing countries of the ESCAP region had not shared in the region's robust growth and that those economies had been increasingly marginalized during the Third United Nations Development Decade. The Commission therefore stressed that the strategy for the 1990s must accord renewed priority to the creation of an environment conducive to the acceleration of the growth process in the least developed and island developing economies.

169. The Commission welcomed the positive results achieved and the Declaration adopted by the United Nations General Assembly at its eighteenth special session, which had been devoted to international economic co-operation for the revitalization of the economic growth and development of the developing countries. It was hoped that the consensus arrived at in the special session would prove conducive to the adoption of an effective international development strategy for the 1990s.

170. The Commission endorsed the proposal that the review of the region's economic and social development trends in the 1980s and emerging new regional priorities for the coming decade, as set out in document E/ESCAP/701, along with the Commission's views on it, should serve as the regional input of the Asian and Pacific region into the international development strategy for the fourth United Nations development decade, to be adopted by the General Assembly at its forty-fifth session.

Review and appraisal of the implementation of the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries, and preparations for the United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries

171. The Commission had before it document E/ESCAP/702 and part two of the *Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific 1989*, entitled "Patterns of economic growth and structural transformation in the least developed and Pacific island countries of the ESCAP region: implications for development policy and planning for the 1990s".

172. The Commission noted with deep concern that the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries, which had raised high hopes as a concerted response of the international community to the enormous difficulties confronting the poorest nations a decade earlier, had failed to achieve its main targets. At 2.8 per cent

between 1980 and 1986, the average growth of all least developed countries fell far short of the 7.2 per cent growth target envisaged in the Substantial New Programme of Action and was well below the 3.6 per cent average growth achieved during the 1970s. Since the population of the least developed countries had grown at a faster rate than their gross national product (GNP), they had experienced a fall in their average standard of living.

173. The Commission noted that, despite the commendable measures adopted by the Governments of the least developed countries of the ESCAP region, they did not share the general dynamism that characterized the performance of the region's developing countries. Structural rigidities, natural disasters, geographical handicaps, environmental degradation and a difficult external environment compounded the economic difficulties of the least developed countries significantly. The Commission therefore urged the international community to accelerate its efforts in support of those countries to enable them to sustain their growth and development. It welcomed the convening of the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries in Paris in September 1990. Some delegations observed that the new programme of action for the 1990s should contain specific targets and innovative ways of addressing the special needs and problems of the least developed countries.

174. While appreciating the efforts of the international community to provide concessionary assistance, technical assistance and technology transfer, the Commission noted that ODA (official development assistance) flows to the least developed countries had fallen considerably short of the target set in the Substantial New Programme of Action. In view of the continuing deterioration in the economic and social conditions of the least developed countries and their steady marginalization in the world economy over the past years, several delegations underscored the urgent need to adopt necessary measures towards increasing ODA significantly for those countries.

175. The Commission noted with satisfaction the various restructuring measures adopted by the Governments of the least developed countries to achieve greater flexibility and acquire resilience in the face of constantly changing internal and external circumstances. Measures had been adopted to reduce government deficits, increase export competitiveness, enhance the role of the market and reduce the size of the subsistence sector. The Commission urged continued efforts in those directions. Some delegations felt that restructuring of an economy was closely connected with regional and global efforts to achieve an appropriate balance among short-, medium- and long-term programmes. Viewed as a long-term development strategy, restructuring of an economy required adequate identification and vigorous pursuit of development objectives, in the absence of which structural adjustment programmes could complicate the problem of poverty and unemployment further.

176. The Commission unanimously adopted resolution 46/7 on promotion of foreign investment in least developed countries of Asia and the Pacific.

177. The Commission appreciated that, in compliance with its resolution 271 (XLIV) of 20 April 1988, the secretariat had carried out preparatory work for the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries. In that regard, it noted with appreciation the support offered by the Governments of France, Japan and the Netherlands. The delegation of France extended the invitation of his Government to all Heads of State to participate in the forthcoming Conference.

178. The Commission unanimously adopted resolution 46/4 on the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries.

179. The Commission expressed satisfaction at the assistance provided by a number of developing countries within their ECDC/TCDC programmes. Such programmes fostered economic and technical co-operation among the countries of the region and played an important role in offering opportunities to the least developed countries to strengthen their links with other developed and developing countries.

180. UNDP re-emphasized its support for the special needs of the least developed countries. In particular, it rendered assistance in the fields of energy, technology transfer, economic restructuring and human resources development. In order to make its regional programme more effective in those areas, it had decided to take into account the needs of smaller groups of countries, particularly those of least developed countries, as well as the land-locked and island developing countries.

Restructuring the developing ESCAP economies in the 1990s

181. The Commission had before it documents E/ESCAP/703 and Corr. 1 and 2, which dealt with the theme topic of the current session, "Challenges and opportunities of restructuring the developing ESCAP economies in the 1990s, with special reference to regional economic co-operation". It complimented the secretariat on having prepared an informative and thought-provoking study. The Commission generally agreed with the broad thrust of the study, *inter alia*, on the need for regional co-operation in facilitating the future process of restructuring the developing economies. It felt, however, that greater emphasis needed to be given to equity, the alleviation of poverty, human resources development and the protection of the environment in the restructuring process.

182. The Commission generally endorsed the main focus of the study relating to regional co-operation as a catalyst for the developing ESCAP region's economic restructuring efforts. It felt that the focus was timely and appropriate, as regionalism had been playing an increasingly important role in the world economy. At the same time, the Commission cautioned against the creation of closed trading blocs, which could adversely affect the evolution of an open trading system through the current negotiations in the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations, on which the hopes of many Asian and Pacific developing economies were based. One delegation, however, expressed disappointment over the treatment of free trade arrangements in the secretariat study; it also felt that greater emphasis could be given to the important role of the private sector in assisting developing economies.

183. The Commission agreed that various external factors, such as the increasing globalization of economic activities, the rapidly changing configuration of economic power among major countries, the emergence of Eastern Europe as a new and dynamic segment of the world economy, the growing protectionism and the external debt problem, required the developing ESCAP economies to accelerate their restructuring efforts. In addition, domestic imperatives, such as poverty alleviation, human resources development and protection of the environment, provided compelling motivation for undertaking economic restructuring. Some delegations expressed particular concern over the adverse pattern of external finance and resource transfers at a time when developing economies were in dire need of funds for restructuring.

184. Aside from the external impulses, the Commission was of the view that increasing domestic pressure in the 1990s would also provide a major impetus for restructuring efforts. However, the Commission observed that the nature of such domestic factors varied a great deal, depending on a country's level of development, degree of openness and other economic characteristics. The Commission also observed that many Governments of the region had been implementing policies and supporting institutional reforms to facilitate the economic restructuring process. Such measures included the relaxation of administrative restrictions and extension of deregulation and liberalization aimed at promoting efficiency through increased competition and freer play of market forces. The Commission emphasized that although a conducive international economic environment was necessary, successful restructuring of developing economies depended primarily on their own efforts.

185. While the Commission appreciated the efforts made by developing economies, it also stressed the need for the developed countries to play a supportive role by undertaking the necessary restructuring of their own economies. One delegation regretted that some developed countries were reluctant to undertake the painful structural adjustments required and resorted to high protective tariffs in order to allow their non-competitive industries to survive. The Commission expressed the need for all countries, both developed and developing, to play a mutually supportive role in the restructuring efforts, and in particular to render co-operation and assistance to the least developed and island developing countries.

186. The Commission agreed that Japan and the newly industrializing members and associate members of ESCAP could play an important role in facilitating the restructuring efforts of developing ESCAP economies. The Commission felt that the significance of the role of Japan and the newly industrializing members and associate members of ESCAP lay in their ability to enhance intraregional flows of trade, investment and technology transfer. It was, however, stressed that all members and associate members of ESCAP would have to co-operate in order to make that endeavour successful.

187. The Commission generally recognized that there was need for broad-based regional co-operation efforts in the Asian and Pacific region. Some delegations expressed the view that the current tempo of regional co-operation efforts in the region was insufficient in view of the immense size, the current economic strength and the potential of the region. However, one delegation felt that the existing institutional framework for such co-operation was adequate, while several others felt that there was need to avoid duplication and to minimize the use of additional financial resources in making new institutional arrangements.

188. The Commission generally agreed with the rationale and scope for regional co-operation in restructuring the region's developing economies. In that regard, the principle of universality was considered essential in any proposal for regional co-operation under ESCAP auspices. More generally, the Commission reiterated that regional co-operation should strengthen rather than constrain a more open multilateral trading system.

189. Several delegations expressed support for innovative measures in strengthening regional co-operation within the current organizational structure of ESCAP. Some delegations sought further clarification on the secretariat's proposal for an ESCAP council for regional economic co-operation, while other delegations called for further study and cautioned against the proliferation of bodies in the Commission. Many delegations, however, supported the suggestion that the secretariat's proposal for an ESCAP council and the views of the members of the Commission thereon be referred to a group of eminent persons which would be appointed to review the existing conference structure.

190. The Commission reaffirmed the predominant role of ESCAP in promoting regional co-operation in Asia and the Pacific and appreciated the tangible and useful contribution which the secretariat had made towards that end. The Commission expressed satisfaction at the progress made so far but emphasized the need for enhanced regional co-operative activities in view of the global challenges being faced by the region. Delegations formulated concrete suggestions for further elaboration of the issues for the forty-seventh session of the Commission.

191. In line with the general consensus on the importance of restructuring the region's economies, the Commission recommended that the theme for its next session should focus on industrial restructuring in Asia and the Pacific, in particular with a view to promoting regional co-operation.

Chairman's summary statement

192. The Commission took note of the following statement of the Chairman (paragraphs 193-196 below) as reflecting the views expressed in the course of the deliberations on future follow-up action relating to agenda item 5:

193. The Commission had a lively debate on the theme topic and the documentation prepared by the secretariat. It appreciated the substantive analysis contained in the documents. It broadly agreed on the need for enhanced and more broad-based regional co-operation efforts in the region through, *inter alia*, expanded intraregional trade and investment flows, and on the need to facilitate economic restructuring to sustain the process of growth and modernization in the

developing economies of the region. It was, however, felt that the institutional arrangements for achieving such co-operation needed to be explored in greater detail. In particular, noting the various views expressed on the proposed ESCAP council for regional economic co-operation, the Commission felt the need for exploring and elaborating the idea, in all its facets, in greater detail.

194. In view of the above, the Commission requested the Executive Secretary to take measures to elaborate the objectives and terms of reference of the proposed ESCAP council for regional economic co-operation in the light of the discussions which had taken place on the issue at the forty-sixth session. The Commission requested the Executive Secretary to consult further with the members and associate members with a view to giving additional impetus to regional co-operation based on expanded intraregional trade and investment flows and to promoting continuing economic restructuring in the region.

195. The Commission requested the Executive Secretary to convene, after taking into account the findings of the group of eminent persons being convened by him to review the Commission's subsidiary structure, and after consulting with ACPR, an intergovernmental meeting, as and when necessary, to develop a regional perspective on the objectives, the scope, and the organizational and operational framework of further co-operative action in the context of new developments and emerging challenges.

196. The Commission requested the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission at its forty-seventh session.

Issues and programmes in various fields of activity of ESCAP

197. The Commission had before it the reports of the Committee on Agriculture, Rural Development and the Environment, the Committee on Development Planning and Statistics, the Committee on Industry, Technology and Human Settlements, and the Committee on Natural Resources and Energy, which had met during the year prior to the forty-sixth session. It also considered the sectoral issue papers and the progress reports on the implementation of relevant resolutions.

198. In his opening statement, the Deputy Executive Secretary highlighted the major issues in various fields of activity of ESCAP presented in the documents, on which the Commission's view was sought. He called the attention of the Commission to issues concerning: (a) agro-industrial development as a strategy for rural poverty alleviation; (b) problems of price fluctuations of agricultural commodities caused by such factors as natural calamities, and the effect of protectionism and instability in market exchange rates on national development, particularly in rural areas; (c) the convening of the Meeting of Ministers of Industry and Technology and, in that regard, the formulation of the regional strategy and action plan for industrial and technological development; (d) the launching of integrated activities for natural disaster reduction through a multidisciplinary approach; (e) energy options for the 1990s; (f) the international legal regime for the protection and preservation of the marine environment and the prevention, reduction and control of pollution, focusing on the strengthening of national capabilities and the promotion of regional co-operation in those areas; (g) the convening of the Ministerial-level Conference on Environment and Development in Asia and the Pacific, focusing on modalities for achieving environmentally sound and sustainable development in the region; (h) the implications of the changing role of markets, technology, resources and public attitudes for the development and management of national statistical services; (i) the convening of the Fourth Asian and Pacific Ministerial Conference on Social Welfare and Social Development, focusing on the formulation of a regional social development strategy towards the year 2000 and beyond; (j) social aspects of human resources development, focusing on the quality-of-life dimension; (k) policies and programmes concerning drug abuse demand control; (l) regional follow-up of the World Conference on Education for All - Meeting Basic Learning Needs; (m) the regional trade prospects related to contemporary developments in international trade, particularly policy initiatives arising from the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations and developments towards unified markets such as the single European market; (n) the socio-economic costs and benefits of tourism in regional development efforts; (o) progress of the regional maritime strategy study; (p) status of the implementation of the regional programme of action for the Transport and Communications Decade for Asia and the Pacific, 1985-1994; (q) the convening of the Fourth Asian and Pacific Population Conference; (r) the utilization of information/communications technologies, TCDC and networking modalities to improve the integration of population concerns in the development planning process; (s) progress in the formulation and implementation of shelter strategies towards the year 2000; (t) the substantive, administrative and financial aspects of the regional institutions and projects; (u) proposals for the strengthening of economic and technical co-operation among developing countries; and (v) the draft medium-term plan, 1992-1997, and proposed programme changes for 1990-1991.

199. The Commission reviewed the issues in the various sectors, as reflected below.

Issues in various fields of activity

Agriculture and rural development

200. The Commission had before it documents E/ESCAP/704 and E/ESCAP/705.

201. It commended the report of the Committee on Agriculture, Rural Development and the Environment on having reviewed the work of the secretariat and provided detailed guidelines for future activities in the field of agriculture and rural development, particularly on raising production and alleviating rural poverty.

202. The Commission fully endorsed the report of the Committee and called for early implementation of activities in the field of agriculture and rural development, as recommended. The secretariat was commended on its comprehensive and useful documentation.

203. The Commission emphasized the need for a study on the agricultural policies of member countries

and their impact on development, and requested the secretariat to take action in that regard.

204. It recognized agro-industrial development as an emerging strategy for the alleviation of rural poverty. It further recognized the continuing importance of the agricultural sector in income and employment generation based on the adoption of modern technologies.

205. The Commission expressed grave concern at the drastic reduction in the number of regular budget staff assigned to the agricultural and rural development programme of the secretariat, given the key role of the agricultural sector in the region's economic and social development and the need to service that important sector adequately. It urged the Executive Secretary to augment the staffing and financial situation of that programme by, if necessary, reorganizing the programme and redeploying resources within various programmes.

Impact of low agricultural export prices

206. The Commission noted with concern the impact on farmers in the countries concerned of low export prices for agricultural commodities resulting from the protectionist policies of developed countries, and commended strategies to mitigate their impact, such as diversification of crops. The Commission directed the secretariat to assist in improving the market information systems relating to agricultural commodities.

Satellite crop monitoring systems

207. The Commission expressed satisfaction at the progress of the satellite crop monitoring project in improving drought early warning systems in the participating countries of the project. The representative of China expressed the interest of his country in participating in the project. The representative of Bangladesh reiterated the interest of his country, expressed at the forty-fifth session of the Commission, in participating in the project. The representative of the USSR expressed willingness to share with members the satellite crop monitoring expertise available in his country.

208. The Commission expressed appreciation to the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and UNDP for generously funding the project, and to the United States National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) for its technical support.

TCDC activities

209. The Commission expressed the view that the activities undertaken in the various areas in agriculture and rural development under the principle of TCDC were beneficial, and urged the secretariat to carry out more such activities in its future programme.

Fertilizer Advisory, Development and Information Network for Asia and the Pacific

210. The Commission made a positive assessment of the valuable services rendered by the ESCAP/FAO/UNIDO Fertilizer Advisory, Development and Information Network for Asia and the Pacific (FADINAP) in fostering fertilizer sector development through the dissemination of information, multifarious training programmes and advisory services. Those activities contributed greatly to an increase in agricultural production, a reduction in marketing costs, soil fertility maintenance and in particular to the overall development of the fertilizer sector. The Commission attached great importance to the activities of FADINAP as many member countries had benefited immensely from them.

211. The Commission expressed appreciation of FADINAP services in the dissemination of fertilizer trade information and of its various publications and other detailed and comprehensive reports, and urged the Network to continue with that valuable service.

212. The Commission noted with satisfaction the services rendered by FADINAP to the Network of Fertilizer Information Systems (NFIS) and commended it on having organized the Regional Consultation on Provision of Information Services to End Users, held at Bangkok in November 1989, which had proved useful to the participating countries. Some representatives said that their countries had contributed to the FADINAP bibliographic data base as a means of sharing their experience with members; others indicated that their countries had benefited greatly from the training in the use of micro CDS/ISIS systems. The representative of Japan informed the Commission of his country's continued support to that activity.

213. The Commission commended FADINAP on the organization of training programmes, the provision of assistance to relevant agencies in the member countries in the conduct of such activities and also the sponsoring of participants. The representative of Malaysia was appreciative of the FADINAP initiative in including participants from the private sector in his country in various training courses, at their own cost. Several of the above-mentioned activities had been carried out under the principle of TCDC. That was highly appreciated by the Commission.

214. The efforts of FADINAP in undertaking training courses on fertilizer sector development in Viet Nam, attended by more than 100 officials from all the provinces, had been of great benefit to that country. The representative of Viet Nam expressed the view that services rendered by FADINAP in various other aspects of the fertilizer sector had had a positive impact on his country's food production drive.

215. The Commission endorsed the proposal to carry out an in-depth study on the promotion of fertilizer use under rainfed farming conditions. In that context, the representative of India informed the Commission about the work being done in his country on the promotion of fertilizer use in low consumption rainfed areas, and offered to share experience and know-how in that field with FADINAP. That generous offer of India was greatly appreciated. In connection with the follow-up of the ESCAP/FAO TCDC Regional Seminar on the Use of Recycled Organic Matter, held in China in May 1988, the representative of China endorsed the proposal to promote the use of city and municipal waste as a source of organic fertilizer. That, among other efforts, would supplement the supply of mineral fertilizers and

increase soil fertility, and should be implemented in close collaboration with FAO.

216. The Commission recommended that in addition to fertilizer promotion in rainfed agriculture, FADINAP should concentrate in its future activities on other areas, such as environmental aspects to prevent fertilizer overuse and misuse, fertilizer demand forecasting and quality control and regulatory aspects. The representative of India stated that FADINAP could share the facilities and expertise of its Central Fertilizer Quality Control and Research Institute, which was engaged in the training of national and international participants.

217. The Commission expressed gratitude to all the donor countries and agencies for providing the necessary resources to FADINAP and urged them to continue their support. In that context, the representative of the Netherlands noted with appreciation the excellent comments made by both the recipient and donor countries to the effect that FADINAP services were needed and should be continued. However, he felt that his country, after having supported the Network for a decade, should phase out its contribution, and that the great interest shown by recipient countries should be matched by an increase in their contribution to FADINAP. That would guarantee its viability as a self-sustained network.

Agricultural requisites scheme for Asia and the Pacific

218. The Commission strongly supported the work of the agricultural requisites scheme for Asia and the Pacific (ARSAP) in the areas of agro-pesticide safety and information. With the increase in pesticide use in the region, proper and safe use was of growing importance. In that regard, the establishment of guidelines for safe use and their translation into local languages was strongly commended.

219. The provision of basic pesticide data and their publication in the *ARSAP/CIRAD Regional Agro-pesticide Index: Asia and the Pacific* was highly appreciated. The active participation of an increasing number of countries in that activity underlined the growing awareness of the environmental hazards involved in pesticide use.

220. One delegation cautioned that ARSAP activities should be implemented in close co-ordination with other field projects, for example, the FAO regional project on the implementation of the International Code of Conduct on the Distribution and Use of Pesticides.

221. Several delegations requested ARSAP to intensify training in the safe use of pesticides in order to support national efforts. One delegation reported that a system of licensing for dealers and vendors had recently been introduced and that it had become mandatory for applicants for such licences to undergo training on the safe handling, storage, transport and use of pesticides. Another delegation reported that important institutional arrangements had been made to regulate the quality of imported pesticides and ensure their safe handling. The representative of the USSR, while stressing the great importance of the safe use of pesticides, offered to share his country's experience in biological and integrated plant protection methods.

222. The Commission expressed gratitude to the Governments of France and the Netherlands for their support in terms of experts and funds for that valuable activity, and urged that work should continue in that important field.

Development of agricultural information systems

223. The Commission highly commended the secretariat's continuing efforts towards diversifying secretariat activities in recognition of the vital role of agricultural information and communication systems in furthering the agricultural development of member countries. It welcomed the project "Strengthening of agricultural information and communication systems", which aimed at strengthening the agricultural information services of the member countries through the exchange of development-related information, with particular emphasis on introducing a multi-media approach.

224. Referring to the proposal to establish a regional network for co-operation in agricultural and rural communication, the Commission endorsed the recommendation made by the Committee on Agriculture, Rural Development and the Environment that an expert group meeting should be convened to work out a concrete action plan for the proposed network.

225. The Commission recognized the continuing importance of farm/rural broadcasting in strengthening agricultural extension systems and the ever-increasing requirements for training personnel involved in that field. It commended the secretariat on its support in organizing, since 1980, a series of training courses on farm broadcasting in various member countries, including that on farm video production held in Fiji in 1989.

226. The representative of Bangladesh requested the assistance of the secretariat in organizing a national training course for radio and television farm programme personnel. The representative of Viet Nam requested that the secretariat organize a training course in his country.

227. The Commission noted with satisfaction that the secretariat had published a training manual and a set of training guidelines on farm broadcasting for agricultural extension workers. Those publications, together with the plan to reproduce the manual in national languages, would contribute to mitigating insufficiencies in training opportunities for the personnel involved in farm programme production in the developing countries of the region. The Commission was informed that efforts were currently under way to translate the manual into the Thai, Vietnamese, Sinhala, Bahasa Indonesia and Bahasa Malaysia, Tagalog and Nepali languages. Recently, China had also requested translation into the Chinese language.

228. The Commission expressed appreciation to the Government of Japan of its generous financial support to the project on a continuing basis.

229. Noting with appreciation the high quality of the *Agricultural Information Development Bulletin* and its usefulness in disseminating information related to agricultural development, the Commission urged the

secretariat to continue the publication on a regular basis.

Rural development for poverty alleviation

230. The Commission emphasized the urgent need to expand activities related to the alleviation of rural poverty in the countries of the region. It called upon the secretariat to accord top priority to poverty alleviation in its future programmes.

231. The Commission took note of specific national poverty alleviation programmes in some member countries. The representatives of India, Indonesia, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Pakistan and Sri Lanka provided information on their respective programmes. The Commission was informed that Pakistan's agro-based industrial development strategy and people's programme incorporated built-in incentives together with two unique features: the provision of sufficient investment funds and direct supervision at the level of the Prime Minister. It was also informed that the Government of Sri Lanka had afforded the highest priority to *Janasaviya*, the poverty alleviation programme currently being implemented under the direct supervision of the President of Sri Lanka.

232. The Commission strongly endorsed agro-industrial development linked with agricultural development as a strategy for poverty alleviation in the rural areas. In that respect, it commended the organization of the Seminar on Linkages between Agricultural Development and Rural Industrialization, held in China in December 1989, and called for early follow-up action on its recommendations.

233. The Commission endorsed the proposal to hold an expert group meeting to examine the recommendation that a centre be established in China to promote economic and trade co-operation between China's township enterprises and those of other ESCAP members.

234. The Commission emphasized the need to give priority to the exchange of information and sharing of experience among the member countries on rural poverty alleviation programmes/activities as well as on the work of United Nations agencies. It called upon the secretariat to serve as the focal point to facilitate such exchange.

235. The representative of France especially emphasized three points: updating ideas regarding agricultural development, in particular along the lines of those of international agencies such as FAO and the World Food Programme; the importance of regional co-operation on the subject; and the preparations for the forthcoming Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries. He requested that the documents to be prepared for the forty-seventh session of the Commission should stress the difficult situation of the agricultural sector of the 11 least developed countries of the region.

236. The representative of the USSR announced that his Government would consider the possibility of hosting an ESCAP-organized seminar on agricultural co-operatives in his country in October 1991.

237. The Commission recognized that there should be focus on agrarian reform as a means for agricultural development and rural poverty alleviation. It called for pursuing agrarian reform-related institutional development projects and activities, such as exchange programmes, study tours and training.

238. The Commission emphasized the continued need to pursue participatory development as a strategy for rural poverty alleviation. It called for expanded activities by the secretariat in that area, particularly through the exchange of grassroots cadres among the developing countries.

239. The Commission appreciated the secretariat's innovative non-farm employment project being implemented in several member countries with generous funding provided by the Netherlands. It stressed the importance of exploring ways and means of creating non-farm employment among the landless and rural poor, and called for greater emphasis on the promotion of self-employment opportunities. The representative of Bangladesh requested that the coverage of the ongoing non-farm employment project be expanded in his country in terms of geographical area and population. The representative of Viet Nam expressed the desire of his country to participate in the project.

240. The Commission appreciated the ongoing co-operation among United Nations agencies through the mechanism of the United Nations Interagency Committee on Integrated Rural Development for Asia and the Pacific. It highly commended the activities implemented under the auspices of the Interagency Committee, and requested that priority be given to such activities as action research, pilot projects and workshops with a view to exchanging information on successful experiments.

241. The representatives of UNDP, UNIFEM, ILO and WHO informed the Commission about the activities undertaken by their agencies in the alleviation of rural poverty, and offered to co-operate with ESCAP and other agencies in the implementation of such activities. The representative of WHO added that integrated rural development should be given much higher priority and not treated as just a sectoral programme. The representative of UNIFEM called for women's access to the factors of production to alleviate poverty. The representative of ILO offered to continue co-operation with ESCAP and others in relevant areas such as employment, manpower planning and poverty alleviation. The representative of UNDP stressed the need to exchange information on rural poverty alleviation at the regional level and informed the Commission that UNDP, through the Interagency Committee on Integrated Rural Development, would provide assistance in that regard.

Utilization of agricultural residues as energy sources

242. The Commission appreciated the activities undertaken in the field of utilization of agricultural residues to improve the socio-economic conditions of disadvantaged rural people through cost-effective use of locally available and renewable agro-residues and wastes as an energy source. Such an effort would alleviate the shortage of rural energy supply resulting from, among other things, the depletion of forest resources in many developing countries of the ESCAP region. It would also strengthen the research

capabilities of developing countries and reduce pollution caused by unused agro-residues and wastes.

243. The Commission was informed that, in compliance with a directive of the Commission at its forty-fifth session, the secretariat would organize a regional seminar-cum-study tour to be held in China and the Republic of Korea from 5 to 18 September 1990. At the seminar, information and knowledge would be exchanged on technologies related to gasification of rice husk and other biomass for electric generation and substitution for fossil fuel.

244. The Commission expressed strong support for the project and endorsed the following items for the agenda of the seminar: (i) review of the current status of rice husk and other biomass gasification technologies and future prospects; (ii) identification of successfully adopted technologies - problems and constraints, and associated policies and promotional measures; and (iii) adoption of proposals for priority follow-up action.

245. The Commission expressed appreciation to China and the Republic of Korea of their financial support and of the provision of host facilities for the seminar-cum-study tour.

Development planning

246. The Commission had before it document E/ESCAP/694 and Corr.1. It agreed with and generally endorsed the analyses, findings, conclusions and recommendations contained in the part of the document relating to development issues and policies. It noted with appreciation the commendable work that the secretariat had been undertaking in the area of development policies, strategies and planning. The Commission, however, urged the secretariat to give more emphasis to its research, training and technical assistance activities in the relatively poorer countries, such as the least developed, the Pacific island and certain other groups of countries facing special difficulties in a period of major transition, transformation and reconstruction in their economies.

247. The Commission examined closely the major areas of work of the secretariat and voiced strong support for its activities in the areas of development planning, such as the work on modelling and projections and the training programmes in development planning techniques. The Commission strongly endorsed the secretariat's activities on research and training in public finance and administration.

248. The Commission urged the secretariat to continue work on the interlinked country model system. Among the areas of priority in research relating to policy modelling, the Commission recommended the following: intraregional and interregional trade, liberalization of agricultural trade, unemployment and human resources development.

249. The secretariat was also urged to undertake work on issues relating to agricultural restructuring, the service sector, social welfare considerations and environmental protection. The Commission also noted the need to undertake gender-differentiated activities emphasizing the role of women in development, and to endeavour to collect the appropriate information and data for the purpose systematically. The secretariat assured the Commission that it would endeavour, within its resource limitations, to strengthen its work in the emerging areas of interest to the countries, which had thus far been relatively less emphasized in the context of activities in the field of development planning.

250. The Commission noted with satisfaction the offer of the delegations of China and the USSR to host jointly with ESCAP seminars on the interlinked country model system. It urged donors to provide extrabudgetary support to enable the secretariat to carry on that activity, which was facing difficulties owing to the termination of the UNDP project. It also noted with appreciation the extrabudgetary support provided by UNDP and other donors for projects relating to a number of elements of the programme on development issues and policies. It also noted with satisfaction that Japan had allocated about $US 240,000 for two projects in 1990: "The training course in development project preparation and appraisal technique" and "Social costs of economic restructuring".

Industry, human settlements and technology

251. The Commission had before it documents E/ESCAP/695 and Corr.1, E/ESCAP/706 and E/ESCAP/707.

252. It endorsed the report and recommendations of the Committee on Industry, Technology and Human Settlements adopted at its first session.

Industry

253. The Commission, while deliberating on the secretariat's activities in the field of industrial development, commended the secretariat on having strengthened those activities, including the mobilization of extrabudgetary resources for their effective implementation. The Commission pointed out that the secretariat's activities reflected the needs and priorities of the members and associate members and had significantly assisted in their endeavours towards industrialization.

254. The Commission emphasized that small and medium-sized industries played a crucial role in the industrial development of all developing economies, regardless of their size and level of development. It was pointed out that the promotion of such industries not only generated substantial employment opportunities in both urban and rural areas but also led to greater dispersal of industrial and other economic activities to non-metropolitan areas. It was recommended that the secretariat should initiate additional measures related to the promotion of small and mediumsized industries through the implementation of extensive programmes for entrepreneurial and managerial development, industrial technology transfer and overall technological upgrading, improvement of technological skills, linkages with larger industries, including subcontracting arrangements, and the flow of information on market opportunities. The Commission, while directing the secretariat to strengthen its activities in those areas, emphasized the need to implement concrete measures aimed at assisting the developing countries in general

and the relatively disadvantaged groups of countries, such as the least developed and island developing countries, in particular. It directed the secretariat to implement activities related to the promotion of export-oriented small and medium-sized industries. The Commission noted with satisfaction that the secretariat had organized the Regional Seminar-cum-Study Tour on Transfer of Technology for Small and Medium-scale Industries, held at Seoul in July 1989. It felt that that activity had been quite useful and beneficial and directed the secretariat to develop follow-up programmes, as well as organize similar activities on a regular basis in co-operation with industrialized and developing countries of the region. The Commission appreciated the generous financial assistance provided by the Government of the Republic of Korea for the organization of the Seminar.

255. The Commission expressed the view that the secretariat's annual publications, *Small Industry Bulletin for Asia and the Pacific* and *Industry and Technology Development News for Asia and the Pacific*, were useful. It recommended that the next issue of the *Bulletin* should focus on the theme "Promoting linkages between small, medium-sized and large industries".

256. Considering that the agro-based and agro-allied industries constituted a major part of the overall industrial structure of several developing economies, the Commission recommended that the secretariat should implement activities related to the development of agro-industries, including assistance in making technological improvements in processing, packaging, product design and marketing of agro-based products, on a priority basis. Furthermore, for the benefit of the island developing countries, marine-resource-based industrial development should be given priority. The Commission emphasized that the secretariat's activities in the field of industrial development should be oriented towards the utilization of the abundant resources of the region, that is agricultural products. The Commission emphasized the need to initiate new activities related to the promotion of forward and backward linkages between the agricultural and industrial sectors, through studies of selected agro-based products.

257. The Commission deliberated extensively on the issues, problems and prospects for industrial development in the least developed and island developing countries of the region. It noted with interest the various macro-policy reforms and other policy reorientation adopted in those countries and pointed out that those countries needed to strengthen their efforts by the effective implementation of various measures: increased mobilization of domestic resources, efficient use of external assistance, and improvement of industrial project implementation. The Commission, while appreciating the secretariat's activities aimed at assisting those countries, emphasized that it should critically assess its current activities and focus in areas such as entrepreneurship development, transfer of industrial technology, promotion of joint ventures and financing of small and medium-sized industries.

258. The Commission expressed appreciation of the organization of a business collaboration meeting between entrepreneurs from the Federal Republic of Germany and Nepal held at Cologne, Federal Republic of Germany in May 1990. In that regard, it expressed the view that such concrete activity aimed at industrial promotion in least developed countries was highly useful and therefore ought to be carried out on a regular basis. It appreciated the financial support extended by the Federal Republic of Germany for that activity and urged it, as well as other donors, to provide assistance to the secretariat in carrying out similar activities.

259. The Commission noted with satisfaction that the secretariat, in co-operation with UNCTC and UNIDO, had organized a workshop in Bangladesh in 1990, on transfer of technology for entrepreneurial development, covering important manufacturing subsectors such as textiles, leather, agricultural implements, electronics, and fish and shrimp processing.

260. The Commission recognized that the Asian and Pacific region, being dynamic, had significant potential for industrial growth and diversification. It stressed that the secretariat should enlarge its activities related to investment promotion in developing countries of the region. While noting with interest the various investment promotion measures enacted in member countries, the Commission emphasized that the secretariat should carry out activities to enhance the role of the private sector in overall industrialization and investment promotion efforts. It should also assist the developing economies, especially the least developed and island developing economies, in devising new and innovative methods of industrial financing, including development of national and regional capital markets. Furthermore, the secretariat should evaluate various measures adopted in developing countries for venture capital financing and recommend concrete ways and means of improving such measures.

261. The Commission noted with satisfaction that the secretariat was implementing a project on investment promotion and enhancement of the role of the private sector in industrialization. It appreciated the financial support provided by the Netherlands for that important activity. It also expressed appreciation of the fact that the secretariat was co-operating with UNIDO in the organization of an investment forum for Viet Nam. It directed the secretariat to initiate activities for the organization of such investment forums in other developing countries.

262. The Commission, while noting with satisfaction the secretariat's activities in the field of human resources development for industry, emphasized that the secretariat should accord high priority to activities related to industrial skill promotion and development. That had become crucial owing to the rapid structural transformation in manufacturing as well as the increasing absorption of new and emerging industrial technologies, resulting in revolutionary changes in industrial production processes. The Commission directed the secretariat to initiate activities for the identification of crucial industrial and technical skill gaps in developing economies, and to organize a regional colloquium to deliberate on possible ways and means to narrow such gaps. It should also look into the possibilities of utilizing existing facilities in developing countries for the training and re-training required for appropriate development of industrial manpower. The Commission felt that tremendous potential existed for

increased economic and technical co-operation in the field of human resources development for industry. It stressed that human resources development activities focusing on the specific needs of least developed and island developing countries should be developed and implemented.

263. The Commission recognized that women constituted an important segment of the potential industrial labour-force and therefore the secretariat should initiate activities aimed at greater integration of women into industrial development. It noted with satisfaction that the secretariat would implement a project on diversified skill development for women in industry, with financial assistance from UNDP.

264. The Commission also emphasized the need for secretariat activities in the area of establishing linkages between research and training institutions and the manufacturing sector.

265. The Commission expressed concern at the inadequacy of activities in the areas of improving technical and managerial efficiency in public sector industries. While noting the various measures taken at the national level, the Commission recommended that the secretariat should develop a regional project aimed at assessing and evaluating measures taken so far for the improvement of efficiency in the public sector and present its findings to the member countries. It should also conduct case studies in countries where public sector industries had predominated in the past, and on recent efforts to restrict public sector growth. The Commission also recommended that objective assessment should be undertaken of the role of government in industrialization, including measures to promote a new perception of the supportive role of government. In that respect, due recognition should be given to the fact that the role of government in industrialization depended on the level of development and the type of economic system adopted.

266. The Commission, while noting that privatization was only one of several measures aimed at improvement of efficiency in public sector industries, recommended that studies should be undertaken on privatization measures, including assessment of the impact of such measures on employment. In that context, care should be taken to study and analyse various alternative strategies for improving the managerial and technical efficiency of public sector industries.

267. The Commission expressed satisfaction at the progress made so far by the secretariat in the implementation of an ESCAP/UNDP intercountry project on promoting international competitiveness and efficient resource utilization in manufacturing. It expressed the view that that activity would not only provide a comparative evaluation of the industrial development experience of developing countries but would also suggest measures to enable those countries to meet new challenges in accelerating industrial growth during the 1990s and beyond. The Commission noted with great satisfaction that several developing economies had expressed interest in participating in the project activities and directed the secretariat to facilitate such participation. While expressing appreciation to UNDP of its financial support, it urged that additional resources be provided to the secretariat to make it possible for all interested countries to participate in the project.

268. The Commission noted with satisfaction that under the project on promoting international competitiveness in manufacturing in developing countries of Asia and the Pacific, special studies were to be undertaken dealing specifically with issues, problems and prospects concerning the technological implications of structural changes within industry and special problems and issues of industrialization of the least developed and island developing countries.

269. The Commission, while appreciating the advisory services provided by the secretariat in the areas of industrial policy reorientation, joint ventures, investment promotion and negotiating techniques, emphasized the need to strengthen such services further and provide them on a continuous basis. It felt that the effectiveness of such advisory services should be improved and also focused on the needs of the least developed and island developing countries. It especially emphasized the need for the provision of advisory services to developing countries in the areas of improving investment laws and codes, joint ventures, and promotion of small and medium-sized industries. In that respect, the Commission strongly urged the donors to provide extrabudgetary assistance to the secretariat on a continuous basis so that such advisory services would not be disrupted.

270. The Commission expressed satisfaction at the increased co-operation between the secretariat and other related United Nations agencies and bodies, especially with UNCTC, the United Nations Centre for Science and Technology for Development (UNCSTD) UNDP and UNIDO. It reiterated its emphasis on the need to strengthen such co-operation further, not only to avoid duplication but also to maintain close co-ordination among global and regional organizations. It stressed that such co-operation would improve significantly the delivery of assistance from those agencies to developing countries of the region.

271. The Commission noted with satisfaction that a formal working agreement between ESCAP and UNIDO had been signed and that the First ESCAP/UNIDO Joint Programme Development Meeting had been held at Bangkok in December 1989 to identify possible co-operative activities.

272. The Commission noted with interest the views expressed by the representatives of UNIFEM, UNIDO and the World Assembly of Small and Medium Enterprises (WASME) in the field of industrial development. It urged the secretariat to maintain close co-operation with those agencies and examine the possibilities of initiating joint activities. The Commission noted with interest the various proposals made by the representative of WASME for possible joint activities with the ESCAP secretariat.

273. The Commission deliberated in detail on document E/ESCAP/706 dealing with issues of major concern to the Meeting of Ministers of Industry and Technology. The Commission expressed appreciation of the document, and felt that the issues identified were crucial and constituted the major concern of the developing countries of the region in their industrialization process. It directed the secretariat to undertake all the necessary preparatory activities and to organize the Meeting of Ministers from 27 September to 2 October 1991. Such meetings, which had been very fruitful in the past, should be organized at intervals by the secretariat.

274. The Commission emphasized that the proposed Meeting should evolve a regional strategy along with a plan of action for the promotion of regional co-operation for industrial and technological development. In that connection, the Commission recognized that the interests and priorities of various groups of countries in industrial and technological development should be taken into account in the development of such a strategy and action plan.

275. The Commission suggested that the secretariat, while preparing the relevant documents under different agenda items, should objectively address issues such as emerging regional trade blocs, recent developments in Eastern Europe and prospects for interregional and intraregional co-operation in trade, investment and technology transfer. It stressed that environmental considerations in industrial and technological development should be given due attention by the Meeting of Ministers, as proposed in the agenda. That aspect should cover areas such as promotion of environmental awareness among investors, identification of high-pollutant industries, and transfer of low- and non-waste technologies at low cost to developing countries. The Commission endorsed the following provisional agenda for the Meeting of Ministers of Industry and Technology:

1. Opening of the Meeting.

2. Election of officers.

3. Adoption of the agenda.

4. Review of activities in the fields of industry and technology

5. Consideration of issues:

   (a) Policies and strategies for promoting the competitiveness of manufactured products: industrial restructuring and harmonization of policies and strategies in developing countries of Asia and the Pacific;

   (b) Creation of an appropriate climate for technological capability enhancement for industrial development;

   (c) Development of industrial and technological skills: prospects for regional co-operation in industrial training and technical skills development;

   (d) Investment promotion and industrial financing in developing countries: strengthening of capital markets in developing countries of Asia and the Pacific;

   (e) Co-operative measures for industrial and technological development in the least developed and island developing countries of Asia and the Pacific;

   (f) Environmentally sound and sustainable industrial and technological development.

6. Regional strategy and action plan for industrial and technological development.

7. Other matters.

8. Adoption of the report.

276. The Commission urged potential donors to provide extrabudgetary resources for the preparation and successful organization of the Meeting of Ministers of Industry and Technology. It also emphasized the need for extrabudgetary assistance to facilitate the participation of the least developed and island developing countries in such an important forum.

277. The Commission noted the offer of the Islamic Republic of Iran to host the Meeting of Ministers of Industry and Technology at Tehran from 27 September to 2 October 1991, and its agreement to bear all responsibilities for the additional administrative, logistical and financial expenditure involved in holding the Meeting. Several delegations welcomed that offer to host the Conference.

Human settlements

278. The Commission reviewed the trends and implications of urbanization in the region, and expressed serious concern about the continuing patterns of rapid urban growth and the ensuing issues of urban management relating to infrastructure, services and transport. In some countries, the continued rural-to-urban migration had resulted in an increasing number of slums and squatter settlements in a few major cities, which required immediate curative measures. In other countries, the recent rapid economic growth had aggravated urban congestion and urban environmental degradation and widened disparities of income within urban as well as among subnational areas.

279. The Commission expressed the view that the dynamism of urbanization should be guided in such a way that it supported national socio-economic development. It noted with interest several viable approaches to urbanization available in the region by diverting the resources to the development of secondary towns and rural areas. In Sri Lanka, owing to the Government's special efforts to implement rural infrastructure development and settlement policies, population growth in the capital city had been minimal. In China, small and intermediate-sized cities with strategic advantages, as well as rural townships, had been developed deliberately in order to overcome the concentration of population in a few large cities.

280. The Commission urged member Governments to formulate and implement comprehensive urbanization and urban management strategies, including population distribution guidelines. It also recommended that high priority should be accorded to the programme of work of the secretariat relating to urbanization, urban development and management strategies, and requested the secretariat to assist countries in formulating and implementing national strategies.

281. The Commission commended the secretariat on its promotional and operational role for the Regional

Network of Local Authorities for the Management of Human Settlements (CITYNET) and appreciated the financial support provided by UNDP for the programme. Noting that 16 city authorities in the region and 10 non-governmental organizations, government agencies, and cities from outside the region had formalized their membership by signing the Charter of the Network in Shanghai in November 1989, the Commission urged the member Governments to facilitate the participation of more city authorities and non-governmental organizations in CITYNET. The Commission was also pleased to note that an organizational arrangement had been worked out for the self-reliant operation of the Network, and expressed appreciation to the City of Yokohama of its offer to host the secretariat of CITYNET from 1992 onwards. The representative of UNDP, complimenting the ESCAP secretariat on the project, which had been well received, suggested that its self-reliance should be a model for other networking activities. While noting the substantive and financial contributions made in the past by member cities and organizations, the Commission recommended that the secretariat should maintain a close working relationship with CITYNET and urged UNDP and donor countries and agencies to extend programme support to the activities of the Network after the establishment of its independent secretariat.

282. The Commission endorsed a proposal to establish a regional network of training institutes concentrating on the field of human settlements for the purpose of developing the region's human resources, particularly for the management of urban and local government. It urged the secretariat to take the initiative in that respect. The Commission suggested that such a network should have a close linkage with CITYNET. It was further suggested that close co-ordination should be maintained with some of the parallel developments, such as the establishment of the Asian and Pacific section of the International Union of Local Authorities (IULA/ASPAC).

283. The Commission recognized the major role played by the private sector, urban and rural informal groups, and non-governmental and community-based organizations in shelter production and delivery, as well as settlement development and improvement. Through regional exchange of viable experience, non-governmental, community-based and women's organizations could become more effective partners in settlement development. In that connection, it appreciated the financial assistance given by the Government of Japan, which had enabled the secretariat to organize a series of regional exchange programmes among non-governmental organizations and community leaders for the improvement of their settlements. The Commission was pleased to note that increasing emphasis had been placed recently on the exchange programmes among community leaders and community-based organizations, such as the study tour organized in June-July 1989 for a group of women leaders from pavement dwellers' communities in India, to Bangladesh, the Republic of Korea and Thailand.

284. The Commission felt that the creation through the media of public awareness of the critical issues of human settlements should be pursued vigorously in the work of the secretariat. In that connection, the Commission appreciated the support of the Government of the Republic of Korea to the proposed regional seminar to promote awareness on issues and policies of low-income shelter and settlements, scheduled for October 1990, which would be attended by journalists and non-governmental organizations.

285. The Commission expressed appreciation to the Federal Republic of Germany of its support for the preparation and publication of 12 leaflets on building technology which had been distributed widely and found useful. The Commission requested the secretariat to assist member and associate member Governments in promoting technology transfer based on those leaflets.

286. The Commission noted with appreciation the offer made by the Government of Indonesia to host the seminar-cum-training programme on rural centre planning in December 1990, based on additional chapters of the "Guidelines for rural centre planning" currently under preparation. In that connection, the Commission expressed appreciation to the Government of the Netherlands for its generous funding support of the project on rural centre planning.

287. The Commission expressed appreciation of the financial and technical support of the Government of France to the project on preparation of guidelines on community-based housing finance and innovative credit systems for low-income households, which addressed one of the most critical issues in the context of shelter for the poor. It noted that a regional policy seminar held in May 1990 had discussed the draft guidelines. The Commission recommended that the secretariat should continue providing follow-up assistance in the form of organizing regional exchange of experience and technical assistance to interested member countries in implementing the guidelines. In that connection, the Commission noted with appreciation the offer of technical assistance by the Government of Bangladesh, based on the experience of the Grameen Bank, in community-based housing finance systems.

288. The Commission noted with appreciation the support provided by the Government of France to the project on the promotion of the building component industry through the application of modular co-ordination rules. In view of the rapid expansion of the construction industry in the countries of the ESCAP region, the Commission urged the secretariat to expedite the publication of the "Guidelines for the development of building component industries". The Commission welcomed the offer of the Government of France to assist member countries in subnational area planning, urban planning and urban waste management.

289. The Commission also noted with appreciation the support provided by the Government of Japan to the project on assistance in human resources development for improvement of shelter and settlements planning in small island developing countries of the Pacific, and noted that the first technical mission had been fielded to selected countries in May 1990. It welcomed the offer of the Government of Japan to provide financial assistance to the project on human resources development to improve the quality of life in intermediate cities. The Commission was confident that that project would contribute to more balanced urbanization in the countries of the region, through the development of appropriate methods for subnational area planning and

the institutional strengthening of local-level planning authorities.

290. The Commission noted the recommendation made at the first session of the Committee on Industry, Human Settlements and Technology that an *ad hoc* intergovernmental meeting should be held in 1991 to discuss human settlements issues. However, in consideration of the rapid urban growth in the region and the accompanying alarming problems of unemployment, transport congestion, health and sanitation, as well as a growing backlog in provision and delivery of urban infrastructure, housing and social services which caused environmental degradation and created disparities in the quality of life, access to services and productive resources between major cities and the smaller urban and rural centres, the Commission decided to convene a high-level regional conference on urbanization, urban development and management, instead of the *ad hoc* intergovernmental meeting, to provide sharper focus on urbanization and related issues. To enable the secretariat to prepare adequately for the conference, the Commission recommended that it should be held in 1992. It requested the secretariat to undertake further consultations with members and associate members on the precise date and venue of the conference. It recommended that extrabudgetary resources should be sought for the preparation and organization of the conference.

291. The Commission unanimously adopted resolution 46/2 on urbanization strategies in the ESCAP region - towards environmentally sound and sustainable development and management of urban areas.

Technology

292. The Commission noted that concrete measures in scientific and technological development needed to be taken by the developing countries of the ESCAP region both to maintain and improve their competitive position in the face of challenges resulting from developments on the global economic front and to facilitate the restructuring from agriculture-based to industry-based economies. It was of the view that the current accelerating pace of technological change would further widen the technological gap between the advanced and developing countries unless deliberate attempts were made to improve the domestic technological capabilities of the developing countries.

293. The Commission recommended that ESCAP should play an active role in developing the human resource base for science and technology development. In doing so, particular attention should be paid to the acquisition, assimilation, development and use of new and emerging technologies, which were important factors contributing to the establishment of an effective science and technology capacity. While technology could be imported from abroad, without endogenous science and technology capacity it could not be effectively absorbed. Many delegations therefore felt that human resources development aspects of the science and technology activities of the secretariat should receive necessary and timely support from the member countries and donor agencies.

294. The Commission noted with satisfaction the activities of the secretariat in the fields of standardization and quality control and stressed the need for further regional exchange of experience and strengthening of co-operation among developing countries of the ESCAP region in those fields. It considered that the promotion of regional and subregional co-operation through the sharing of experience and institutional facilities and dissemination of information in those fields was essential. It suggested that technical advisory services on quality control should be provided so that developing countries could realize the importance of adherence to the strict standard requirements of buyers in the developed countries.

295. The Commission endorsed the activities of the secretariat on new and emerging technologies and stressed that further consideration should be given to the rapid advances in the new and emerging technologies which had wide-ranging implications for the economies of developing countries. The role of the secretariat in undertaking studies assessing the impact of those new technologies was also crucial. The changing technological situation called for new and innovative approaches in science and technology-based education and also in training and re-training to meet the requirements of new and emerging technologies. Towards that end, the Commission recommended that research, development and mobilization of endogenous capabilities in the fields of biotechnology, genetic engineering, materials science and micro-electronics should be vigorously pursued, together with the development of appropriate technical human resources, and directed the secretariat to provide assistance to member countries in those areas.

296. The Commission pointed out that the secretariat should arrange research and development programmes for specific developing countries in the region, tailored to their needs and requirements, to improve and develop their capabilities. In the mean time, the least developed and island developing countries needed to strengthen their domestic efforts in the development of industrial technology. The Commission stressed that the secretariat should play a leading role in promoting the flow of science and technology information to entrepreneurs of small and medium-scale enterprises, especially in the least developed and island developing countries. The Commission also directed the secretariat to establish close and effective linkages between research and development institutions and the production sector, and to promote projects in human resources development which would respond to the needs of the developing countries in the region.

297. The secretariat was urged to make the necessary provisions to carry out a survey on laws, regulations and organizational structure regarding patent procedures and make recommendations on ways of utilizing the technological information which could be obtained and exchanged among members and associate members through their respective patent offices at the national level.

298. The Commission supported the initiatives taken by the secretariat and APCTT (Asian and Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology) in publishing a directory of marketable technology, providing joint advisory services, proposing to set up a regional data

bank which could contribute to technology transfer and development, and promoting TCDC exchanges in the form of study visits within the ESCAP region. That type of activity should be given more emphasis and could go a long way in bringing about timely adjustments in technology policy responses, technology awareness and the technology climate.

299. The Commission noted with satisfaction the major progress made and practical steps taken by several member countries in establishing centres of excellence for, among other things, the harnessing of science and technology for their benefit. The Commission was pleased to note that three national centres, dealing with biotechnology, materials technology and electronics, had been established by the Royal Thai Government. The Government of China had also realized a number of successes with its SPARKS programme in introducing science and technology development to remote rural areas.

300. The Commission noted that there continued to be wide disparities in science and technology capabilities between the group of developed and developing countries and among the developing countries themselves, even 10 years after the adoption of the Vienna Programme of Action on Science and Technology for Development, and called upon the countries to enhance activities in science and technology for development at the national, subregional and regional levels in the coming decade, giving more emphasis to environmentally sound and sustainable development. It stressed the urgent need for strengthening the indigenous science and technology capabilities and institutional support of the member countries, particularly in new and emerging technologies, such as in biotechnology, new materials and micro-electronics, which had great potential for assisting in the socio-economic development of the countries. The need for free and better flow of science and technology information from developed to developing countries and among the developing countries themselves was emphasized. The Commission stressed that the secretariat's extensive experience of technical co-operation activities with members and associate members should be fully utilized to establish linkages between national technological requirements and the capacity to offer technology.

301. The Commission expressed appreciation of the successful implementation of the TCDC exchange of study visits involving China, the Republic of Korea and Thailand in the areas of planning, development and evaluation of policies and programmes for science and technology for development. It recommended that that programme should be expanded to include other countries. The Commission was also of the view that greater support of TCDC/ECDC approaches and measures in science and technology for development was timely and useful and called for enhanced financial contributions from more member countries and donor agencies to continue such activities.

302. The Commission welcomed and appreciated the past activities of the secretariat aimed at the integration of women into technological and industrial development and urged the secretariat to ensure that appropriate programmes were developed to enable women to acquire more skills in not only technological but also scientific and managerial areas, so that they were qualified to fill positions in industry at all levels.

303. The Commission expressed appreciation of the technical co-operation and/or financial support extended by several countries, including China, India, Japan and the Republic of Korea, and international organizations such as UNCSTD, UNDP, ILO and UNIDO, to the secretariat's programmes in the field of science and technology, and recommended the continuation of such efforts. It took note with gratitude of the offers of: Thailand, to host the project on total quality management technology for selected small and medium-scale industries as well as regional meetings in the field of standardization; and China, to host projects on theories and application techniques of plant growth regulations, and techniques of low-cost housing. It also noted that at the invitation of China, the secretariat would send a mission in July 1990, to study the SPARKS programme, with a view to the eventual sharing of the successful experience with other countries of the region. It appreciated the intention of UNDP to consider the funding of "free standing" projects on technology.

Environment

304. The Commission commended the efforts of the secretariat in preparing documents E/ESCAP/704, E/ESCAP/708 and E/ESCAP/743, which provided useful information regarding the promotion of environmentally sound and sustainable development in the region. It endorsed the recommendations contained in the report of the Committee on Agriculture, Rural Development and the Environment on its first session, dealing with the Ministerial-level Conference on the Environment in Asia and the Pacific and other selected issues, including environmentally sound and sustainable development, management of terrestrial ecosystems, protection of the marine environment, and promotion of awareness on the environment.

305. The Commission noted with concern that adverse environmental effects were highly visible in the Asian and Pacific region and that if the current trends continued, it would not be possible to sustain the momentum of regional development. It stressed the need for increased regional and international co-operation as a major approach towards solving resource depletion and environmental pollution problems. In that regard, the Commission recommended that the secretariat should lay greater emphasis on an intersectoral approach to environment and development issues, particularly since industrial, urban and agricultural development had been creating most of the environmental problems in the region.

306. Highlighting the environmental issues concerning desertification, deforestation, pollution, salinization, the marine environment and urban slums, the Commission supported the continuation and strengthening of related ongoing activities of the secretariat. It expressed concern that international trade in hazardous wastes, technologies and products might create additional environmental stress in countries and areas of the region. In view of that, the Commission recommended broadening the scope of work of the secretariat by incorporating such programmes as monitoring of hazardous and toxic products and wastes and their transboundary movement, and transfer of environmentally benign technology. In that regard, the Commission noted with

satisfaction that the secretariat had initiated implementation of General Assembly resolution 44/226 of 22 December 1989, and urged countries to assist the secretariat in its task of monitoring and assessment of the situation and reporting on that to the Economic and Social Council at its second regular session, as from 1990.

307. On the protection of the marine environment and related ecosystems, the Commission recommended that the secretariat should continue to provide assistance to developing countries, at their request, in such areas as the development of coastal environmental management plans, the management of mangrove ecosystems and marine pollution control.

308. The Commission urged its members and associate members to strengthen their institutional frameworks for the promotion of environmentally sound and sustainable development. In that regard, it was suggested that consideration might be given to organizing, as appropriate, groups of ministries/agencies to deal with environment and development questions.

309. The Commission lauded the achievements of the environmental awareness programme of the secretariat carried out in close co-operation with the Asian Forum of Environmental Journalists (AFEJ). It endorsed the idea of strengthening that programme further by the inclusion of the electronic media and non-governmental organizations active in the field of the environment, as well as of expanding the geographical coverage of the programme to include the Pacific region.

310. The Commission considered the implications of international trade and investment for sustainable development, as analysed in document E/ESCAP/708. It recognized that, because countries of the region were generally pursuing outward-oriented development strategies, trade and investment could have a profound effect on the environment and resource base, and those linkages required careful analysis. The Commission further recognized that export prices, especially for natural resources, often did not cover the full social costs of production, namely the environmental and resource conservation costs.

311. The Commission generally endorsed the strategies and proposals for action set out in document E/ESCAP/708, covering the development of methods for aligning export prices, including the environmental and social costs of production, and improvement in integrating national income, trade and environmental statistics. In that regard, the Commission recommended the incorporation of natural resources accounting in national accounting systems. Furthermore, it stressed the need to promote close co-operation between the exporting and recipient countries in order to counter regional environmental threats, to minimize adverse effects on competitiveness and to ensure that developing countries did not carry a disproportionate share of the cost of attaining sustainable development.

312. The Commission expressed satisfaction at the preparations for the Ministerial-level Conference on the Environment in Asia and the Pacific, as reported in document E/ESCAP/743, and endorsed the proposals contained therein. The Commission attached importance to defining the goals for regional co-operation in ecologically sustainable development, identifying priorities among environmental and natural resources management problems, and agreeing on a regional strategy for ecologically sustainable development. It was informed that the Conference would be held at Bangkok from 10 to 16 October 1990 and would be co-sponsored by UNDP. Others co-operating would include the Asian Development Bank (ADB), UNEP and the Royal Thai Government.

313. The Commission was gratified to note that His Majesty The King of Thailand had graciously consented to grant an audience to the heads of delegations to the Ministerial-level Conference. It noted with satisfaction that the Prime Minister of Thailand would inaugurate the Conference and that the Administrator of UNDP, or his representative, the Executive Director of UNEP and the President of ADB would address the Conference. The Commission urged members and associate members to ensure ministerial-level participation in order to make the Conference a success.

314. Since the issues to be discussed at the Ministerial-level Conference, as reflected in the agenda, dealt primarily with environment and development issues, the Commission decided that the title of the Conference should be changed to "Ministerial-level Conference on Environment and Development in Asia and the Pacific". In that regard, the Commission noted that certain minor modifications would be required in the agenda and documentation and would be made by the secretariat.

315. The Commission hoped that an action-oriented regional strategy for environmentally sound and sustainable development would emerge from the Conference, which, among other things, should promote an intersectoral approach to environment and development. It endorsed the holding of an exhibition on clean technology, CLEANTECH '90, and a non-governmental organization-media symposium on communication for environment in conjunction with the Ministerial-level Conference.

316. The Commission stressed the importance of the follow-up of the Ministerial-level Conference. In that regard, it noted with interest and welcomed the idea of convening a meeting of resident representatives of UNDP immediately following the Conference, to discuss possible national follow-up action. With regard to the implementation of regional follow-up of the Conference, the Commission urged potential donor countries and agencies to extend the necessary co-operation and support.

317. The Commission commended the effort of the World Commission on Environment and Development in promoting the concept of sustainable development with worldwide equity, which would involve alleviation of poverty and population stability - the two major problems that currently needed to be tackled. In that connection, the Commission considered that the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development to be held in Brazil in 1992 would be a milestone in the efforts of the international community to develop a global approach to environmentally sound and sustainable development. It was recommended that the secretariat should ensure that the results of the forthcoming

Ministerial-level Conference reflected the realities in the region with regard to industrial pollution, climatic change and the corresponding rise in sea level, the dumping of hazardous wastes, land degradation, poverty and other issues, so that a realistic input of regional environmental concerns could be made into the Conference in 1992.

318. The representative of the United Nations Environment Programme informed the Commission about its ongoing programmes and the preparatory activities in connection with the Conference in 1992, including the first substantive session of the preparatory committee to be held at Nairobi from 6 to 31 August 1990. Greater efforts were needed for the incorporation of environmental aspects in sectoral development policies to bring about environmentally sound and sustainable development based on the UNEP report to Governments entitled: "Environmental perspectives to the year 2000 and beyond". He further informed the Commission that the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal had been ratified to date by four countries, and urged ESCAP members to ratify that Convention as soon as possible. The Commission was informed that the Executive Director of UNEP would participate in the Ministerial-level Conference, which UNEP was co-sponsoring. The representative assured the Commission of the close and strengthened co-operation of UNEP with ESCAP in the field of the environment.

319. The Commission heard with interest the statement by the representative of the United Nations Development Fund for Women, who stressed the importance of including the issues of gender and women's participation in environmental protection in the discussions at the Ministerial-level Conference. The International Council of Women also supported the idea of the enhanced participation of women in environment and development activities. The representative of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization highlighted its programme on environmental education. The representative of the World Health Organization reported that it had established the Commission on Health and Environment to assess the impact of man-made environmental changes on human health. The findings of that Commission would be provided as a WHO input into the 1992 Conference.

320. The representative of the United Nations Development Programme highlighted the UNDP environmental strategy in the 1990s and informed the Commission that 112 field offices of UNDP were focusing on the incorporation of environmental issues in their country programmes and that those field offices would become focal points for the mobilization of sustainable development. While emphasizing the importance of co-ordination in the field of the environment, he mentioned that the 1992 Conference would provide a forum for co-ordination at the global level, the ESCAP Ministerial-level Conference in 1990 would provide a forum for co-ordination at the regional level, and the UNDP country offices offered opportunities for co-ordination at the national level. UNDP co-operation with ESCAP on the environment was currently being pursued through the implementation of intercountry projects on the development of environmentally sound and sustainable development in the region, the intercountry project on desertification control (DESCONAP) and the project on conservation and management of critical ecosystems and protected areas. In the light of the above, and to strengthen further UNDP co-operation with ESCAP on the environment, UNDP, in consultation with ESCAP, had decided to co-sponsor the Ministerial-level Conference on Environment and Development in Asia and the Pacific.

321. The Commission expressed deep appreciation to UNDP, UNEP, ADB and the Governments of Australia, France, Japan, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, Thailand and the USSR of their support in the implementation of its programme of work on the environment and, in particular, the environmental activities of the secretariat.

Natural resources, marine affairs and energy

322. The Commission had before it documents E/ESCAP/696 and Corr.1 and E/ESCAP/709. It endorsed the report of the Committee on Natural Resources on its fifteenth session (E/ESCAP/696 and Corr.1).

Mineral resources

323. The Commission noted that the dramatic improvement in mineral exploration and mining activities in many of the countries of the ESCAP region had continued for the past few years. Particular interest was recorded in coal, zinc, precious metals, industrial minerals and construction materials. The Commission remarked that active and successful exploration depended not only on a promising geological setting but also on mining legislation and investment policies. In that regard, it noted the promulgation of new foreign investment laws in the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Pakistan and Viet Nam, and the ongoing mining code adjustments in Malaysia, the Philippines and Thailand.

324. The Commission commended the secretariat on the substantial progress in the implementation of the programme of work in the mineral sector, and urged it to continue to be active in that field. In particular, it expressed appreciation of the high professional standard and quality of the studies and publications in the two atlas series on stratigraphy and mineral resources, and the continuous inventory of regionally important minerals and commodities under the mineral concentrations and hydrocarbon accumulations series.

325. The Commission noted the progress made in the implementation of the regional mineral resources development programme through organizing group training activities and advisory services on various aspects of mineral resources exploration and development. It expressed appreciation to Japan for providing two experts on coal and geochemical exploration and for funding the programme on epithermal gold mineralization. The contributions made by China and the USSR in support of the programme were also gratefully acknowledged. The Commission noted with appreciation the progress made in the implementation of the UNDP-funded project on regional training in mineral resources development for the least developed countries and Viet Nam, with budget allocations of $US 400,000 for 1990-1991. It noted the good response from the

Governments of the least developed countries to that project obtained through a number of preparatory missions undertaken since the approval of the project at the beginning of 1990.

326. The Commission noted the interest of its members and associate members in the development of a comprehensive data base on mineral reserves, resources and mineral endowment, and urged the secretariat to organize an expert working group meeting on standardization of data in the compilation of mineral data banks.

327. The Commission noted the requests made by Indonesia for advisory services on industrial minerals exploration, exploitation and development, and also on rare metals and rare earth minerals; by Malaysia, to participate in the study tour on mining in France in October 1990, and in the second workshop on epithermal gold mineralization to be held in Indonesia in September 1990; and by Bangladesh, for advisory services on industrial minerals and training in the field of coal exploration and development.

328. The Commission commended the implementation of a series of technical assistance missions, seminars and publications in the area of geology for planning. Those activities included the preparation of a series of thematic maps and studies of various cities of the region where Governments were increasingly concerned about geological conditions that had impeded development and seriously affected urban populations. The representative of China informed the Commission that its contributions to the ESCAP *Atlas of Urban Geology*, a series of thematic maps and a report on geology for urban planning in Shanghai and Ning Bo, were nearing completion. The Commission endorsed the continuation of the urban geology and environmental geology technical assistance programmes into 1991 and beyond, and thanked the Government of the Netherlands for the support extended to the programme since 1985.

329. The Commission expressed appreciation of the substantial support given in the area of mineral resources and marine affairs by the Governments of France, Japan and the Netherlands, and by UNDP; of the provision of host facilities and meeting of local costs by the Government of India for the nine-month post-graduate training course in geology; of the host facilities provided by the Government of China for the International Symposium on Circum-Pacific Volcanism and Metallogeny; and of the host facilities provided by the Government of the USSR for the Seminar on Modern Methods in Mineral Exploration.

330. The Commission acknowledged the offers made by a number of delegations to host various training activities and to provide expertise in the mineral sector: by Indonesia, to host a second workshop on epithermal gold mineralization to be held in September 1990; by France, to sponsor and host a study tour on mining to be organized in October 1990; by the USSR, to sponsor and host a seminar on remote sensing applications for geotectonic mapping and mineral exploration, to be held in September-October 1990; by Viet Nam, to host a training course-cum-symposium on coal exploration and development, to be held in October 1990; by China, to organize an international symposium on techniques for the prevention of natural disasters in 1991; and by the USSR, to provide expertise for thematic mapping of geologically hazardous areas. The United States offered an eight-sheet series of 1:2,000,000 scale geographic base maps for East Asia which could be used by ESCAP and other agencies such as CCOP for the compilation of various hydrocarbon, mineral resource and hazard data.

Water resources

331. The Commission expressed appreciation of the work of the secretariat on the wide range of activities and the volume of work undertaken in the field of water resources and its support for the continuation of those activities. In particular, it commended the achievements in the following areas: guidelines for the preparation of national master water plans; environmental considerations in water resources development; a manual and guidelines for comprehensive flood loss prevention management; urban flood loss prevention and mitigation; water quality monitoring; water-use statistics; TCDC programmes in water resources development; and various publications on water resources development.

332. Several delegations commended the secretariat on the activities being undertaken on water-related natural disaster reduction and the assistance rendered to the Typhoon Committee and the Panel on Tropical Cyclones, and expressed strong support for the continuation of those activities.

333. Regarding activities of the secretariat in the implementation in the region of the Mar del Plata Action Plan on Integrated Water Resources Development and Management, one delegation suggested that emphasis should be placed on specific issues such as policy and management, water resources assessment, water quality control, and water use. Another delegation suggested that emphasis should be given to the subject of safe drinking water supplies.

334. One delegation raised the subject of shared water resources development and expressed concern that that component of the Mar del Plata Action Plan was not being implemented and, considering the relevance and importance of the subject, suggested that that issue be viewed in a spirit of understanding and co-operation and that appropriate action be taken. Another delegation stated that the subject of shared water resources development was a subject of interest to only a few countries and that the secretariat should concentrate its efforts on issues relevant to a large number of countries in the region, and suggested that the subject of shared water resources be left to the countries concerned for bilateral action.

335. The Commission expressed its gratitude to Japan and UNDP for their continuing support of the activities of the water resources programme of ESCAP on water-related natural disaster reduction, and to Bangladesh, China, the Netherlands and the USSR for their support of other aspects of work in the area of water resources. It expressed the hope that such support would continue well into the future.

Cartography and remote sensing

336. The Commission recognized that in conformity with its mandate to promote social and economic development in harmony with the environment, the ESCAP secretariat had attached great importance to

problem-solving through a multidisciplinary approach, including using remote sensing technology in combination with the geographic information system (GIS).

337. The Commission realized that remote sensing and GIS were multi-faceted technologies and promised to be the wave of the future, as the world as a whole and the ESCAP region in particular grappled with problems of environmental degradation and resource over-exploitation.

338. The Commission noted that the ESCAP/UNDP Regional Remote Sensing Programme (RRSP) had been functioning as an effective co-ordination mechanism for interaction among the national remote sensing centres/programmes in the ESCAP region. It was recommended that the network of national focal points established under RRSP, including the Regional Information Service contact points and the education contact points, should continue as the co-ordinating linkages for regional efforts on enhanced TCDC collaboration in remote sensing development in the region.

339. The Commission observed that through the network mechanism, RRSP had so far organized a large number of useful meetings, training activities, information dissemination activities, pilot projects and subprogrammes, and that the Programme had also produced a large number of publications, including reports, proceedings, newsletters, journals, registers and inventories. The Commission noted that all those activities had helped the participating countries, especially the least developed countries of the region, in broadening the base of their remote sensing manpower as well as in promoting the use of remote sensing in national socio-economic development activities.

340. The Commission noted that the ESCAP region had come a long way towards full awareness of the possibilities offered by the application of remote sensing technology in natural resources management and environmental monitoring. However, many new technological developments were already on the horizon that would continue to pose challenges for developing countries in achieving self-reliance in remote sensing applications and development. Therefore, preparing specialists, planners, managers and decision makers to acquire and, most importantly, to make optimum use of the new and emerging technologies remained a matter of regional concern. In view of that need, a stronger regional co-operation and co-ordination mechanism to tackle the common issues would continue to be of paramount importance in the years ahead. The Commission envisaged an enhanced role for RRSP during the period of technological transition from the experimental to the fully operational stage of remote sensing development in the coming decade.

341. The Commission therefore endorsed a declaration on remote sensing which had been issued by the countries participating in the sixth session of the Intergovernmental Consultative Committee on the Regional Remote Sensing Programme, held at Manila in June 1989. The Commission strongly appealed to UNDP to continue providing RRSP with enhanced financial support for a third phase from 1992 to 1997 to assist the member countries in harnessing regional co-operation and co-ordination in remote sensing development.

342. The Commission noted that with the advance of computer technology and the continuous increase in remote sensing data-gathering capability, GIS was rapidly becoming another important tool for resource management and development planning. As the integration of remote sensing and GIS would further promote the evolution and development of information gathering and processing for resource managers and planners, as well as decision makers, the member countries should keep pace with such trends, develop the necessary policy strategies and make appropriate plans for rising to the challenge of that emerging technology, which would most likely become fully operational for resource management during the current decade. The Commission recommended that technology transfer in the integration of remote sensing and GIS should be an important component for regional TCDC collaboration under the expanded Regional Remote Sensing Programme during the decade.

343. The Commission recognized that the intermediary role played by RRSP in information exchange between the member countries on remote sensing applications and development, both within and outside the region, was highly effective. It was therefore recommended that RRSP should continue to develop innovative co-ordination mechanisms in order to provide comprehensive services to the national remote sensing programmes, as well as governmental agencies which were the users of such technologies.

344. The Commission noted that RRSP had been a regional collaboration effort achieved primarily through UNDP financial support and the good will and co-operation of the participating countries, as well as with support from international and regional agencies. It was also observed that the multi-sectoral intergovernmental umbrella of ESCAP contributed substantially to the success of the Programme. The Commission therefore agreed that, for the successful continuation of the regional remote sensing collaboration with financial support from UNDP, multidisciplinary technical backstopping by ESCAP remained essential.

345. The Commission noted that many of the countries of the region, including several least developed countries, considered remote sensing technology and its applications as a national priority in the current decade in order to enhance their social and economic development. In the same context, a number of countries planned to use the technology effectively in the monitoring of natural hazards and environmental deterioration. Since the 1990s had been declared the United Nations International Decade for Disaster Reduction, collective efforts by ESCAP members and associate members to monitor natural hazards and their environmental impact through remote sensing and GIS were considered important. It was therefore recommended that RRSP should develop joint pilot projects, and organize training activities and information dissemination seminars on the use of remote sensing and GIS technology in disaster mitigation in the countries of the ESCAP region.

346. The Commission acknowledged the offers of Australia, France, India, the USSR and the United

States to provide information and expertise for the promotion of regional remote sensing development and applications. It also acknowledged the offers of Bangladesh, India, Malaysia, the Philippines and Viet Nam to host a training workshop/seminar/conference in the future in co-operation with RRSP.

347. The Commission noted with appreciation the offer of the Government of China to provide funds to host an interregional seminar on space application to disaster monitoring in Beijing in 1991, in co-operation with the United Nations Outer Space Affairs Division and RRSP, and that of the Government of the Republic of Korea of technical assistance for an RRSP proposal on the use of remote sensing and GIS for natural disaster reduction.

Marine affairs

348. The Commission expressed strong support for the integrated and multidisciplinary approach followed by the secretariat in the marine affairs programme.

349. The representatives of several countries mentioned the necessity of implementing the new regime of the sea established under the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea. Steps in that direction included preparations for ratification of the Convention, the establishment of co-ordinating mechanisms among ministries and agencies concerned with marine affairs and the drafting of relevant legislation.

350. Developing countries of the ESCAP region recognized that implementing the Convention was a very complex task. The Commission therefore strongly urged that the secretariat provide advisory services to countries on request, as well as technical assistance and training in the various sectors of marine affairs and the law of the sea.

351. Specific requests for assistance included the provision of training in the assessment, evaluation, development and management of marine resources under national jurisdiction. The representatives of many countries also requested the secretariat to provide assistance in the legal aspects of marine affairs, such as the interpretation of the various provisions of the 1982 Convention, the drafting of legislation on the protection of the marine environment, and advisory services/training on the legal aspects of the management of non-living resources, such as offshore hydrocarbons.

352. The Commission strongly urged ESCAP to undertake a study of the management of the marine environment and resources as that issue was of paramount importance to many Asian and Pacific countries. Offers were made by several countries with recognized capabilities in marine resources management to co-operate with the secretariat in that field. They included a proposal by the Soviet Union to host a seminar on marine geology and geophysics in 1991. The representative of China reiterated the offer of his Government to host a training course on engineering geology in coastal and nearshore areas at Guangzhou. The representative of the United States confirmed the readiness of concerned scientific agencies in his country to collaborate with ESCAP on a regional programme on sea-floor mapping, using ships equipped with digital sonar equipment.

353. The Commission commended the secretariat on the backstopping provided to CCOP and SOPAC and requested that co-operation be strengthened on law of the sea issues of relevance to their work programmes.

Energy resources

354. The Commission commended the work of the secretariat in the field of energy as set forth in the report of the Committee on Natural Resources and Energy on its fifteenth session. Several delegations expressed satisfaction that their countries had benefited from various activities of ESCAP.

355. The Commission commended the secretariat on the quality of the documentation and was in general agreement with the secretariat on the analysis and identification of energy issues. It endorsed the approach of the secretariat to assist developing members and associate members in the management of the energy sector, aimed at increasing their management capability and at improving the efficiency of their energy systems.

356. Among the priority areas of concern, the Commission stressed the importance of energy conservation and optimum utilization of energy. In that respect it was suggested that ESCAP should give more attention to the development of specific guidance on the efficient use of various forms of energy. It was further stressed that sustainable energy use should receive the highest priority, taking into consideration the environmental consequences of energy use, and that efforts to develop energy alternatives such as oil substitution should be encouraged. One delegation suggested that ESCAP should endeavour to obtain the services of experts from developed countries which had accumulated extensive experience in the field of energy taxation to assist developing countries of the ESCAP region in formulating appropriate policies.

357. The Commission recognized the urgency and importance of rural energy planning in rural development. It considered that new and renewable sources of energy would continue to be important alternative energy sources for rural areas in the future. It recommended that policy guidelines for the promotion of the use of new and renewable sources of energy should be developed and further development of the technology pursued. The secretariat was urged to consider, in a timely manner, the various changes in technology and the infrastructure necessary to utilize those renewable energy sources.

358. The Commission recognized that close co-operation among the countries in the region was indispensable in addressing the wide variety of issues, particularly in the energy and environment areas. In that respect the formation of the six working groups in various sectors of energy, energy planning, rural energy planning and development, coal development, natural gas development, electric power development and energy conservation, was considered an appropriate way to foster sustainable intercountry co-operation. It was suggested that ESCAP should consider enhancement of the activities of the working groups on natural gas and coal development. The Commission noted with appreciation offers by various delegations to host and participate in the proposed working groups, as well as in activities.

359. The Commission was highly appreciative of the generous support of regional energy activities by UNDP and other donors and urged them to continue and enhance their contributions in the future. It particularly noted the contributions and offers made by Australia and France to support activities in the area of coal utilization and new and renewable sources of energy, including wind, biogas and rural electrification.

Natural disaster reduction

360. The Commission expressed appreciation of the secretariat issue paper on natural disaster reduction and endorsed the activities of the secretariat on that subject, in particular the work undertaken in implementing resolution 45/5 of 5 April 1989 on fulfilling the objectives of the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction in the ESCAP region.

361. The Commission commended the secretariat on the establishment of an ESCAP task force for the International Decade to facilitate interdivisional as well as intersectoral co-ordination, and requested that the ESCAP activities formulated under the umbrella of the Decade be undertaken in close co-operation with countries of the region, utilizing existing agencies and institutions.

362. The Commission noted that geologically related natural hazards were of serious concern to most countries of the region, including many Pacific island countries. The representatives of many countries expressed an urgent need for technical assistance in the prevention and mitigation of such natural disasters.

363. With regard to water-related natural disasters, the Commission expressed its support for activities related to flood loss prevention, as well as to the reduction of the effects of drought. One delegation suggested that the secretariat should consider implementing a project on comprehensive flood plain development and management, and proposed the holding of a workshop on tropical storm hydrology in the region.

364. The Commission urged that all activities undertaken within the framework of the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction should be integrated, using the most advanced technology available. It recognized that those activities would have to continue at a high level throughout the Decade and beyond, as most of the available technologies were only well developed and operational in developed countries. However, one technology, remote sensing, had developed rapidly in the countries of the region over the past decade and that technology, combined with a GIS, needed to be assessed as a possible approach to disaster reduction. There was still a need for better thematic maps, especially maps showing the location of geologically related hazards. Consequently, the Commission recognized that national geological surveys would play an important role in the assessment of mitigation measures required for the Decade. The Commission indicated that ways and means of generating close co-operation between government ministries and various agencies and institutions, including international agencies, were required if the objectives of the Decade were to be achieved.

365. The Commission expressed gratitude for the generous support provided by Japan in the field of natural disaster reduction, particularly the ESCAP/UNDRO regional symposium on the International Decade and the project on assessment of current preparedness programmes, forecasting systems and operational methods for water-related natural disaster reduction.

366. It also expressed appreciation to China, India and the USSR of their offers to share their experience in natural disaster reduction with the other countries of the region, and to the United States for offering studies, maps and publications on the subject for dissemination in the region. In that connection, the Commission recommended that countries having experience in the field of disaster preparedness and prevention should provide the secretariat with maps and publications on disaster mitigation so that that information could be disseminated to other interested members.

367. The Commission agreed that the initiation of programmes to assess and mitigate the effects of natural disasters needed to be integrated with national social and economic objectives.

368. It recognized the need for accelerated training and the development of technology related to the identification of hazards, as well as hazard assessment and the development of smooth emergency response to all types of natural disasters.

369. The Commission noted with satisfaction the interest and willingness of many countries, as well as international organizations such as WHO, to participate in the regional activities within the framework of the International Decade.

Statistics and government computerization

370. The Commission had before it documents E/ESCAP/694 and Corr.1 and E/ESCAP/710. It endorsed the relevant part of the report of the Committee on Development Planning and Statistics on its first session (E/ESCAP/694) and commended the secretariat on the quality and comprehensiveness of document E/ESCAP/710 on management issues in statistics and computerization.

371. The Commission heard with interest of various statistical and computerization developments in member countries in the year under review, including activities related to the 1990 round of population and housing censuses.

372. The Commission fully endorsed the views and proposals of the secretariat contained in document E/ESCAP/710, which set out some of the challenges likely to be met by countries in managing their national statistical services in the 1990s. It noted that those challenges arose in part from the expanded role of government and the increasing complexity of the process of policy-making. The Commission also noted that there had been other significant changes in the environment in which the national statistical agencies in the region functioned and delivered their products and services. Apart from ever-increasing demand for data on emerging topics, such as quality-of-life

indicators and the environment, emphasis on the various desirable attributes of statistical data, including their timely availability, relevance, standardization and harmonization, had increased considerably. Expansion in the use of computer technology also had important implications for the working environment and management of statistical services.

373. The Commission observed that more effective user-producer interaction was an important factor in developing relevant and useful statistics. To that end it recognized the need for improving the skills of national statistical offices in the fields of analysis, interpretation, presentation and report writing. It was noted that, to foster co-operation between data users and producers, some countries in the region had organized seminars, workshops and conferences at national and local levels, involving both the public and private sectors. The Commission recognized the crucial role played by computer technology in the early release of provisional estimates and in the dissemination of statistics in electronic form, both of which were techniques designed to increase user satisfaction. However, it also noted the trend towards an increasing demand for privacy and the corresponding difficulty of obtaining information from the public, which was likely to make the process of data collection more costly and time-consuming. Measures to gain the support of data suppliers by raising their awareness and appreciation of the information were reported.

374. The need for making available adequate data in sufficient detail at the subnational level was highlighted by several delegations. The Commission noted that small-area statistics were essential for subnational-level planning and for the monitoring of programmes at the local level. Representatives of some countries mentioned their efforts to improve data processing facilities at the subnational level, including the development of data bases.

375. The Commission recalled that Governments required timely, relevant and good quality data for adequate policy analysis and effective development planning. However, statistical work usually received less attention than it deserved; one reason for that situation was that the contributions of the national statistical offices were not readily visible and thus not fully recognized. For statistical offices to play their rightful role in improving the process of development, the Commission agreed that there was a need to enhance the status of national statistical organizations, improve career development opportunities for statisticians and develop human resources involved in the production of statistics. Representatives of some countries mentioned attempts made by their Governments in that direction, for example through the formalization of a separate statistical service, the possible upgrading of the status of the national statistical office, and the adoption of a salary standardization programme which had opened career development opportunities for government statisticians.

376. The recent emphasis on restructuring of economies, as well as the economic reform processes initiated in several countries of the region, required further strengthening and reorientation of national statistical services. The Commission noted the need for Governments to pay adequate attention to establishing appropriate linkages between those processes and statistical development.

377. The Commission noted that developing countries often lacked the resources to meet adequately the existing demand for statistical data, and were facing difficulties in coping with new challenges. Several countries mentioned that in their efforts to overcome some of those difficulties they had benefited greatly from the technical assistance available under the statistics programme of ESCAP. The Commission strongly endorsed the basic thrust of the technical co-operation activities of ESCAP in statistics, consisting of regional advisory services, seminars, workshops, training courses and similar activities. The technical meetings organized by the Statistics Division of ESCAP had, *inter alia*, facilitated transfer of knowledge and exchange of information on new techniques and methodology. They had also promoted collaboration and technical co-operation among countries in the field of statistics. The view was expressed that for meetings held away from ESCAP headquarters, the local costs could be borne by the host country, while the international travel of participants could be financed under ESCAP-executed projects.

378. The regional advisory services were considered a very important element of the ESCAP technical co-operation programme in the field of statistics. Representatives of several countries mentioned that those services had contributed significantly to the improvement and development of the technical skills of national statisticians by exposing them to state-of-the-art methods and practices. The Commission recommended that that mode of technical co-operation should be fully explored.

379. The Commission noted that SIAP and the Statistics Division of ESCAP were playing important roles in human resources development in the field of statistics. While the training courses organized were very useful for developing basic skills and for training trainers, the seminars, workshops and other technical meetings organized by the Statistics Division of ESCAP had contributed significantly to enhancing the skills of senior and mid-level statisticians in the region, and in preparing them to cope with new challenges. The Commission noted with appreciation the usefulness of joint activities of SIAP and the Statistics Division and recommended that they should enhance the co-ordination of their activities for strengthening statistical services in the region. It emphasized the need for training aimed at improving the skills of national statisticians in microcomputer and software package applications.

380. The Commission noted that the analysis and full utilization of data deserved adequate attention in the decade of the 1990s. Although data collected in censuses and surveys were usually disseminated through standard reports, subsequent analysis and research based on those data were often lacking or insufficient. It was noted that statisticians therefore had to increase their involvement in the analysis of the information they produced in order to ensure its maximum utilization. The Commission recommended that Governments should pay greater attention to the development of analytical skills in their national statistical offices. The secretariat could play an important catalytic role by developing appropriate projects on that topic, for the region as a whole and, where appropriate, for subregions also.

381. The Commission noted with appreciation that the Government of the Republic of Korea had

provided additional financial support to enable the secretariat to conduct the Seminar on the Revision of the United Nations System of National Accounts (SNA) separately for the Asian and the Pacific subregions, so as to provide an opportunity for each subregion to discuss its specific needs more completely. Furthermore, the Commission welcomed the fact that the Department of Technical Co-operation for Development, United Nations Headquarters, was providing supplementary funding to cover the additional expense involved in extending the seminars to allow time to brief the participants more fully on the issues involved in the SNA revision process. The Commission expressed the hope that the revised SNA would better reflect the economic conditions and requirements of the developing countries. It noted with interest that the Government of China was developing the New Economic Accounting System, and that the System was being implemented on a trial basis in nine provinces. In that connection, the efforts of the international statistical community in harmonizing the MPS (System of Material Products and Balances) and the SNA were appreciated.

382. It was noted that phase VI of the International Comparison Programme (ICP) had begun in 1990. The Commission expressed appreciation to the Government of Japan for providing financial support and host facilities for a seminar on the use of purchasing power parities to be conducted at Niigata in November 1990, and hoped that the blueprint for follow-up ICP activities in the region to be discussed at the seminar would also meet with funding support.

383. The Commission noted with appreciation that the Government of China had provided financial support and host facilities for the Seminar on Design and Evaluation of Household Sample Surveys conducted at Beijing in May 1990. It welcomed the decision of China to participate in the National Household Survey Capability Programme (NHSCP). It also noted with appreciation the NHSCP-related training courses organized jointly by the Government of India and the Statistics Division of ESCAP, and considered that such training courses contributed significantly to the development of national capabilities in conducting household surveys. The Commission welcomed the offer of India to provide technical advisory services in sampling methodology to requesting Governments on a TCDC basis, for up to six weeks per assignment. While appreciating the considerable work done to promote capability in household surveys, the Commission also expressed the view that there was a need to pay attention to sample surveys of establishments.

384. The Commission welcomed the current and planned activities of the Statistics Division in data base development. It expressed support for the ESCAP endeavour to establish a network of statistical data bases within the secretariat, which would be an important step towards meeting the data needs of ESCAP members and associate members. It was suggested that information exchange through floppy diskettes would facilitate the timely collection and processing of data.

385. The Commission strongly endorsed the secretariat's work plans in the field of government computerization. It noted that computerization and information technology were fast-growing areas and that such growth was expected to accelerate in the future. Government computerization was viewed as having an important role to play in the economic and social development of member countries. The Commission recognized that information technology was important not only in the strengthening of national planning, management and administration through improving efficiency and productivity in the public sector, but also in the field of international trade relations.

386. The representatives of several countries mentioned their commitment to an overall computerization strategy but noted that they were not yet fully exploiting the possibilities of information technology. In one country, implementation had commenced of a comprehensive national information network covering relevant sectors to ease access to information and statistics. In addition, progress had been made on studies on the standardization and compatibility of networks and computer systems. It was noted that the rapid changes brought about by the introduction of new information technology required a large effort in human resources development to keep abreast of developments, and the Commission suggested that ESCAP should assist in that regard.

387. The Commission expressed concern at the limited amount of resources so far committed and urged potential donors to give high priority to both the Asian and the Pacific components of the government computerization subprogramme. In panicular, it urged ESCAP and UNDP to finalize the improved government information system project for the Pacific, to be located at EPOC (ESCAP Pacific Operations Centre), as soon as possible. It suggested that the secretariat should approach additional donors for funding similar activities in Asia. Concerned at the paucity of information technology projects designed to assist the efforts of developing countries, the Commission noted with appreciation the Training Course in Electronic Data Processing for Government Information Activities, which the Government of Japan had been conducting since 1982 as part of a training programme for government personnel of the developing countries, particularly those of the ESCAP region.

388. The Commission stressed the need for the secretariat to promote government computerization further through advisory services and training opportunities, and supported in particular the convening of a working group of experts on government computerization. The view was expressed that the name of the subprogramme should be changed from "government computerization" to "state information systems" so as to widen its coverage.

389. Concern was expressed that while the scope of the statistics programme had expanded with the inclusion of new activities such as government computerization, the resources allocated to the programme had actually diminished. Given those difficult circumstances, the Statistics Division was commended on its efforts in implementing the programme activities, which had made an important contribution to the development of statistical capabilities in the region. The need to improve the resource situation of the Statistics Division and the possibility of redressing the regular budget shortfall through other means, such as programme support

resources, were noted. It was hoped that such resources would be made available as soon as possible to ensure effective implementation of the programme.

390. The Commission noted with satisfaction the readiness expressed by several countries to engage in co-operative activities both with each other and through ESCAP. It was felt that such assistance, collaboration and exchange of experience would strengthen the efficiency and effectiveness of the management of statistics and computerization activities in the region.

391. The Commission noted with appreciation that since its forty-fifth session the secretariat had received bilateral support for its activities in the fields of statistics and government computerization from Australia, China, Denmark, India, Japan, New Zealand, the Republic of Korea, the USSR and the United Kingdom. It expressed warm gratitude to those Governments for the provision of manpower, financial resources and host facilities for meetings, and to the Royal Thai Government for hosting several study tours. The Commission heard that among the multilateral agencies, UNICEF, UNDP, UNFPA and ILO had extended very considerable support. The Commission recorded appreciation to all those donors, and requested them and others to continue their support in the future.

Social development

392. The Commission had before it documents E/ESCAP/697 and Corr.1, E/ESCAP/698 and Corr.1 and Add.1, E/ESCAP/699 and E/ESCAP/711. It commended the secretariat on the excellent quality of those documents and endorsed the proposals contained therein.

393. The Commission expressed gratitude to the Governments of Australia, China, France, Japan, the Netherlands, Norway and the Republic of Korea for their generous financial support of the secretariat's work in the field of social development. It expressed appreciation to the Governments of Malaysia and the Philippines for the provision of host facilities, technical expertise and financial support in connection with various meetings and training activities undertaken in those countries. The contributions made by various United Nations agencies and bodies, including the United Nations Office at Vienna, UNICEF, UNDP, the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM), the United Nations Asia and Far East Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders (UNAFEI), the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (INSTRAW) and WHO, were acknowledged with thanks. In addition, the Commission thanked various non-governmental organizations, including the Christian Conference of Asia, Disabled Peoples' International, the International Union of Students and the World Council of Churches, for their contributions.

Social development policy and planning

394. The Commission endorsed the secretariat's activities relating to the formulation of a regional social development strategy towards the year 2000 and beyond. It expressed appreciation to UNDP of the financial assistance it had provided to those activities.

395. In supporting the formulation of a regional social development strategy, the Commission stressed the importance of focusing on the themes of distributive justice, poverty eradication and popular participation, as called for in its resolution 45/1 of 5 April 1989. A number of delegations emphasized specific social development issues which had been given high priority by their respective Governments and which they felt should be highlighted in the strategy. Those issues pertained to the family, health, education, employment, consumer security, the environment and the provision of social services.

396. The Commission commended the secretariat on having undertaken activities in connection with the project to formulate a regional social development strategy towards the year 2000 and beyond, as mandated in resolution 45/1. It noted with appreciation the completed activities of the secretariat under phase I of the project, which included a series of studies on social development situations, trends and policy and planning approaches and the convening of a regional seminar to examine those studies with a view to defining issues and strategic responses. Ongoing activities under phase II of the project included the preparation of studies to develop alternative policy and planning scenarios for integrated socio-economic development in the region for the 1990s. To validate the findings of those studies and complete other preparatory work towards the formulation of a strategy, a regional expert group meeting would be convened at the end of 1990. The Commission noted that in 1991, under phase III of the project, the secretariat planned to formulate a draft regional social development strategy. It urged that the draft strategy be finalized at a meeting of eminent persons planned to be convened in mid-1991. It agreed that the strategy should be presented for consideration and adoption at the Fourth Asian and Pacific Ministerial Conference on Social Welfare and Social Development, to be hosted by the Government of the Philippines at Manila late in 1991.

397. The representative of the Philippines informed the Commission that a national organizing committee had been established in February 1990 to undertake preparations for the Conference. The Commission urged all ESCAP members and associate members to participate in the Conference with ministerial-level representation, to ensure that social development policy and planning issues received the fullest consideration at the regional level. The Commission expressed appreciation to the Government of the Philippines on having generously agreed to host the Conference.

398. The Commission took note of the complementary roles played by Governments and non-governmental organizations in the field of social development. It welcomed the initiative of the secretariat in convening in 1990 a seminar on co-operation between government agencies and non-governmental organizations in the planning and delivery of social services. The Commission voiced appreciation to the Government of the Netherlands of its provision of financial support for that seminar. It

urged the secretariat to undertake further activities to strengthen the partnership between Governments and non-governmental organizations in the design and implementation of policies and programmes for social development.

Human resources development

399. The Commission emphasized the critical importance of human resources development as an essential precondition for sustained social and economic progress. It was of the view that the development of the Asian and Pacific region was closely dependent upon the continued enrichment and enhancement of its human resources and their effective use. The challenge of raising the productivity of the region's vast human resources for development would thus continue to be a regional priority.

400. The Commission took note of the recent move throughout the region towards a more integrated approach to human resources development, as advocated in the Jakarta Plan of Action on Human Resources Development in the ESCAP Region. In that regard, the Commission commended the secretariat on having undertaken effective work in implementation of the Plan. It also expressed appreciation to UNDP of its provision of substantial financial support for a major regional project on assistance towards the implementation of the Jakarta Plan of Action.

401. The Commission was of the view that, while there was widespread commitment in the region to adopting an integrated approach to human resources development, the requisite institutional mechanisms to support the adoption of such an approach continued to be lacking in many countries. Bearing that in mind, the Commission commended the secretariat on having embarked on a project to develop an ESCAP network of national focal points for human resources development. That project would set a firm institutional framework, through the establishment and strengthening of a regional network, for the pursuance by ESCAP members and associate members of an integrated approach to policy-making, planning and programming for human resources development. Through that project, ESCAP would serve as the regional co-ordinating body to ensure effective interaction among the national focal points for human resources development and to promote TCDC through facilitating the exchange of human resources development experience, information and expertise in the region.

402. The Commission took note of the three interrelated themes of the Jakarta Plan of Action: employment and manpower development, science and technology, and the quality of life. Of the three themes, the Commission was of the view that the quality-of-life dimension had in the past received the least attention as an aspect of human resources development. In the light of that situation, the Commission commended the secretariat on having focused attention on the importance of quality-of-life issues, not only as a matter of humanitarian concern but also as a critical input into the human resources development process.

403. The Commission called attention to the basic components of the quality of life in the ESCAP region, as reflected in document E/ESCAP/697. Those were education, health, employment, shelter, environment, social security and social defence. It was suggested that social welfare services could also be considered an important component of the quality of life, especially as such services were a necessary prerequisite for ensuring the access of disadvantaged social groups to opportunities for human resources development.

404. The Commission commended the secretariat on having undertaken a series of background studies on major conceptual and methodological issues pertaining to the quality of life in preparation for the conduct of a survey of the quality of life in Asia and the Pacific, as mandated in its resolution 273 (XLIV) of 20 April 1988. It expressed appreciation to the Government of Japan of the financial assistance it had provided for phase I of that endeavour. In view of the priority placed by the Commission on the need to obtain an objective and reliable analysis of the various components of the quality of life, donor countries and agencies were urged to support phase II of the secretariat's activities, to conduct a regional survey of the quality of life.

405. The Commission emphasized the link between improvement of the quality of life and the development of human resources. It was of the view that effective planning and delivery of social services constituted a necessary prerequisite for enhancing the quality of life of the people in the region. In that connection, the Commission requested the secretariat to assist the region's developing countries by devising training curricula and organizing training courses to enable social service personnel and those from other government sectors to respond more effectively to the emerging socio-economic needs of the region. In doing so, the Commission urged the secretariat to take into account the experience and expertise of non-governmental organizations in the planning and delivery of social services.

406. The Commission welcomed the establishment by the secretariat, in co-operation with the Government of France, of the ESCAP Human Resources Development Award. The Award had been established as one means of encouraging exemplary research and other innovative achievements in the field of human resources development in Asia and the Pacific. Member and associate member Governments were encouraged by the Commission to nominate as candidates for the Award qualified nationals who had undertaken innovative work in the field of human resources development.

Women in development

407. The Commission reviewed the achievements of a number of Asian and Pacific countries in promoting the participation of women as equal partners and important human resources for national development. It noted that many countries in the region had adopted measures to enhance the status of women, to better the quality of their lives and to ensure their effective participation in development.

408. The Commission stressed the need to integrate women into mainstream development through improving their access to the seven components of the quality of life addressed in document E/ESCAP/697. In particular, the Commission emphasized the critical role of education and training in improving the productive capacity and status of women.

409. The Commission expressed concern over the weakening of the traditional functions of the family as a result of such trends as urbanization, migration and the increased participation of women in the labour force. In calling for measures to strengthen the role of the family in development, it emphasized that steps should be taken to ensure equitable sharing of rights and responsibilities by both men and women in the family. The Commission called special attention to the problems facing female-headed households. It also referred to the problem of violence in the family and called for consideration of measures to deal with that problem.

410. The Commission noted that women played an important part in the informal sector of the economy. The predominance of women in the informal sector was largely due to women's unequal access to employment in the formal sector. Their low status relative to that of men, coupled with their double burden as homemakers and income earners, prevented them from acquiring the skills and opportunities needed to enter the formal sector. The Commission called for an examination of the factors that constrained income opportunities for women in the informal sector in the light of the current and potential roles of institutions and policies relating to that sector.

411. The Commission commended the secretariat on its activities aimed at developing and strengthening the Women's Information Network for Asia and the Pacific (WINAP). It voiced appreciation of the secretariat's conduct of a series of subregional training workshops and technical advisory services to improve the capabilities of national focal points for women in information management. The Commission also welcomed the publication of the *Directory of National Focal Points for the Advancement of Women in Asia and the Pacific* and the semi-annual *WINAP Newsletter*. The Commission expressed appreciation to the Government of Norway of its provision of generous financial support to enable the secretariat to undertake those activities. It called upon the secretariat to undertake activities to strengthen WINAP further.

412. The Commission recognized the important role of non-governmental organizations in promoting women's effective participation in development. Non-governmental organizations working for women were considered to be important mechanisms for raising public awareness of such social concerns as the environment and drug abuse. The Commission recommended that activities aimed at promoting the role of women in development should be carried out with a view to strengthening the role of women's non-governmental organizations in the region.

413. The Commission called for the exchange of national experience with regard to women in development through a field study programme of successful women-in-development programmes. It recommended that emphasis should be placed on such activities in accordance with the concept of TCDC in the region.

414. A number of delegations expressed concern over the slow progress made in the Asian and Pacific region in the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women. The secretariat was requested to undertake background studies and convene a regional meeting on women in development to review the progress achieved in implementing the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies as a preparatory activity for the World Conference on Women to be convened by the United Nations in 1995.

415. The Commission unanimously adopted resolution 46/6 on integration of women in all aspects of development.

Youth in development

416. The Commission considered major issues concerning the situation of youth in the region. It commended the secretariat on its work to promote youth participation in development.

417. The Commission voiced concern over the low levels of literacy among young people, particularly girls and young women, in many countries of the region. While it noted the efforts that were being made to increase school enrolment, it was of the opinion that an equally urgent task was to reach the large number of illiterate and functionally illiterate out-of-school youth. In view of the magnitude of the problem, the Commission called for the intensification of efforts to expand the outreach of functional literacy programmes. In that regard, it welcomed the decision of the Government of Japan to finance a project to mobilize youth organizations in the region to undertake functional literacy programmes targeted at young people.

418. The Commission noted with appreciation the secretariat's continuing efforts to enhance national capabilities for the mobilization of youth for development through the conduct of national and subregional training courses for youth trainers in rural and urban youth work. It voiced appreciation of the support for those activities provided by the Governments of Malaysia, the Philippines and the Republic of Korea, and by the Christian Conference of Asia and the World Council of Churches. In view of the recognized usefulness of such programmes, the secretariat was requested by the Government of Viet Nam to assist the Viet Nam Youth Federation in assessing youth needs and identifying priority areas for youth training.

419. The Commission was of the view that further analysis was needed of critical issues facing youth in development, including the impact of technology on the working life of young people and the protection of young women workers in industry. It also urged the secretariat to promote youth participation in environmentally sustainable development.

420. In view of the trends towards increasing and more varied youth crime and delinquency in the ESCAP region, the Commission noted with concern the negative effects of rapid and unbalanced economic growth and the erosion of the family as factors contributing to juvenile delinquency. It called for further consideration of crime prevention measures and progressive criminal justice policies and rehabilitation programmes by countries in the ESCAP region and requested the secretariat to continue its activities in that regard. It voiced appreciation of the secretariat's advisory services in the field of crime prevention and rehabilitation of criminal offenders,

supported by the Government of Japan, and suggested that those advisory services should be closely co-ordinated with the secretariat's youth programme activities to ensure maximum effectiveness.

421. The Commission commended the secretariat on its provision of advisory services in the field of youth development and called for the continuation of such services in the developing countries of the region.

Disabled persons

422. The Commission stressed the importance of policies and programmes to enhance the participation of disabled persons in development as well as those to improve public awareness of the concerns and situation of disabled persons. It noted with particular interest the implementation in certain Asian and Pacific countries of quota systems for the employment of disabled persons, special educational enrolment systems for disabled persons and the establishment and strengthening of welfare facilities to serve their specific needs.

423. Attention was drawn to the needs of disabled persons for better access to public buildings and amenities. The Commission was informed of recent progress in the region concerning national programmes on the adoption of uniform standards for meeting those needs. The secretariat was urged to assist the developing countries in the region in improving disabled persons' access to public buildings and amenities to facilitate their equal participation in social and economic life. It noted, in particular, that urban management policies should be developed to take into account the needs of disabled persons.

424. The Commission expressed support for the self-help efforts of disabled persons to enhance their quality of life. In that regard, it expressed appreciation of the financial support of the Government of Japan to the secretariat's activities to assist in the development of national cross-disability self-help organizations of disabled persons and the strengthening of disabled people's self-representation at all levels. The importance of activities to empower disabled persons for self-representation and self-help was emphasized.

Elderly persons

425. The Commission expressed concern at the socio-economic implications of the rapid increase in the number of elderly persons in the region and their rapidly growing proportion of the total population in some countries. Rising expenditure for formal social security arrangements, such as national pension and medical insurance schemes, was imposing a strain on the national budgets of some countries of the region. Elderly people were increasingly being compelled to rely on such arrangements in view of the weakening role of the family in the provision of support and care, a phenomenon associated with rapid industrialization and urbanization.

426. The Commission was of the view that strengthening of the role of the family presented a viable approach to the care of elderly persons. Encouragement of respect for elderly persons, as well as provision of allowances, tax reductions and housing benefits for families with elderly members, were among the measures mentioned as having been undertaken by some countries to operationalize that approach.

427. The Commission urged the secretariat to assist the developing countries of the region in adopting pre-emptive measures to deal with the social and economic problems of aging populations. Noting the implications of such problems for all sections of society, the Commission stressed that the secretariat's activities should focus on the timely integration of concerns with regard to aging into development policy and planning. That would promote lifetime preparation as a means of ensuring the participation of elderly persons in development. In addition, it was proposed that policy measures in support of family-oriented values, and policies and programmes favouring community-based care of elderly persons, should be developed.

Drug abuse prevention and rehabilitation

428. The Commission noted with particular concern the increasing severity of the problem of drug abuse in the region. It called attention to the fact that the drug abuse problem transcended national boundaries. The rapid spread of drug abuse in the region and the susceptibility of all social groups were highlighted. The association of both the supply and demand sides of drug abuse with violence and corruption was noted. Also noted was the urgent need to divert adequate human and financial resources to combat drug abuse and its consequences in the region.

429. The Commission pointed out that the causes of the growing demand for illicit drugs in Asia and the Pacific were diverse but interrelated. Drug abuse was seen to be both a threat to social development and a consequence of inadequate attention to the social dimension of the development process. At the same time, it was recognized that drug abuse was caused partly by the social changes that accompanied economic development.

430. The Commission outlined some of the characteristics that it considered necessary to be incorporated in a successful approach to drug abuse control. It felt, in particular, that special consideration would need to be given to the social environment of drug abuse. In that regard, the abuse of nicotine and alcohol should be included in demand reduction efforts, as their public abuse had promoted a social environment conducive to the abuse of illicit drugs. Drug abuse prevention activities needed to be geared to reaching families, schools and the workplace. Activities of non-governmental organizations were considered to be a vital input into the process of demand reduction. Drug abuse control activities, including both supply and demand control activities, needed to be integrated so as to support each other. International efforts were required, including the exchange of data and information about successful prevention, treatment and rehabilitation techniques. International drug control efforts needed to be carefully co-ordinated so as to avoid duplication and ensure complementarity.

431. The Commission commended the secretariat on its drug abuse demand reduction activities. It took note of the secretariat's participation in various recent

major United Nations drug abuse control initiatives, including the preparation of the Comprehensive Multidisciplinary Outline of Future Activities in Drug Abuse Control and the United Nations system-wide plan of action on drug abuse control.

432. The Commission requested the secretariat to increase its technical co-operation activities in the field of drug abuse demand control. Several specific needs were identified for secretariat action. They included examination of the relationship between drug abuse and social circumstances, of the social costs of drug abuse, and of the effectiveness of drug abuse treatment and rehabilitation programmes. Improved and more comprehensive data and information development on demand aspects of drug abuse were felt to be a vital current regional need. The secretariat was asked to assist with drug abuse data and information in line with the recommendations contained in the *Report of the ESCAP Workshop on Drug Abuse Data Collection, Analysis and Presentation: A Standard Format*. It was suggested that a regional information exchange network could be instituted through publication of a regular newsletter. The secretariat was also asked to promote the development of human resources in drug abuse control, including the development of career streams. The Commission called for a regional meeting to deal with drug abuse demand control questions.

433. The Commission welcomed the indication by the Government of Australia of its willingness to consider specific requests from the secretariat to continue Australian support for the ESCAP drug abuse control programme. It heard with appreciation the assurances given by the representative of WHO regarding his agency's continuing support for and co-operation with ESCAP drug abuse control activities. It also noted with appreciation the statement by the Colombo Plan Bureau promising continued close collaboration with ESCAP in its drug abuse control activities.

Basic education and literacy

434. The Commission reviewed the progress achieved in the implementation of resolution 45/3 on regional support for International Literacy Year. It noted with satisfaction the active role played by the secretariat in support of the World Conference on Education for All - Meeting Basic Learning Needs, convened at Jomtien, Thailand from 5 to 9 March 1990. It expressed particular appreciation to the Executive Secretary for ensuring ESCAP participation in the World Conference as an associate sponsor and to the Government of Japan for providing the necessary financial support for ESCAP backstopping of the World Conference and implementation of follow-up activities.

435. The Commission was informed that the World Conference had adopted the World Declaration on Education for All and the Framework for Action to Meet Basic Learning Needs. It commended the secretariat on having forged timely and substantive linkage between the Jakarta Plan of Action and the Framework for Action. In that regard, a number of delegations pointed to the crucial link between education and the quality of life and underscored the importance of literacy and education as essential tools for development.

436. The Commission recognized the value of exchanging information and experience, pooling expertise and sharing facilities to increase the resource base for the region and lower the costs of achieving the goal of education for all by the year 2000. It emphasized, in that regard, the importance of taking an intersectoral and interdisciplinary approach to education for all in order to ensure that education would reach all sections of society and be relevant to the people's life needs.

437. The Commission noted that a number of Governments in the region had undertaken special activities in support of International Literacy Year. Those activities had ranged from the establishment of national committees for the Year to specific activities to eradicate illiteracy, provide educational facilities for all children of school age, and stress the importance of literacy and continued education, especially among disadvantaged social groups.

438. The Commission recognized that regional co-operation and the exchange of experience were vital complements to national efforts towards eradicating illiteracy by the year 2000. With that view, the Commission endorsed the secretariat's project to formulate a regional programme for action in support of education for all, as a follow-up of the World Declaration on Education for All and the Framework for Action to Meet Basic Learning Needs.

439. The Commission noted that the regional programme of action should identify specific activities for regional co-operation, especially as those would concern policies to improve the relevance, quality, equity and efficiency of basic education services and programmes. It also decided that activities in six areas should be identified for regional collaboration: training of key basic education personnel, such as planners, managers, teacher educators and researchers; basic education information collection and analysis; basic education research; production of basic education materials; use of communication media to meet basic learning needs; and management and use of distance education services.

440. The Commission unanimously adopted resolution 46/5 on regional follow-up of the World Conference on Education for All - Meeting Basic Learning Needs.

International trade and tourism

441. The Commission had before it document E/ESCAP/712 and Corr.1, which analysed important policy initiatives at the global and regional levels, and their impact on the trade prospects for developing countries of the ESCAP region; document E/ESCAP/744, which discussed interregional co-operation in trade facilitation; and document E/ESCAP/713, which highlighted the most urgent issues facing the developing countries of the ESCAP region in the field of tourism. The Commission expressed overall satisfaction with the information and analysis contained in those documents.

International trade

442. The Commission observed that the rapidly changing international trading environment presented

serious problems as well as significant opportunities for the developing countries of Asia and the Pacific. The economies of many developing countries of the region had become more outward-looking and market-oriented, partly owing to national policy adjustments and partly to improvement in the world trading environment in the late 1980s. The Commission noted the statements made by a number of delegations regarding action taken by their Governments to restructure their countries' economies and improve access to their markets. However, the trade and development difficulties faced by some of the least developed, land-locked and island developing countries remained a cause for concern.

443. While the ESCAP region had become the most dynamic force in the world economy, many countries had become more vulnerable to the potential uncertainties and instability in the global trading environment. For that reason, particular interest was expressed in the outcome of the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations as a means to halt the retreat from multilateralism and establish a free multilateral trading system with transparent and enforceable rules. With the Uruguay Round entering the final phase of negotiations, hope was expressed that there would be a successful outcome. Some delegations expressed concern about the dilution of the aspirations of developing countries and the lack of progress on many key issues of particular interest to those countries. Such issues included liberalization in agriculture, elimination of non-tariff barriers on natural resource-based and tropical products and fulfilment of commitments relating to standstill and rollback of protectionist measures by developed countries.

444. Concern was expressed that trade in textiles, which was important for the developing countries of the region, had not been properly addressed in the Uruguay Round. In that connection, the Commission urged that trade in textiles be brought within the GATT discipline. Some delegations expressed concern about the continuing balance-of-payments problems faced by their countries and stressed that article XVIII of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade continued to be crucial for developing countries. It was recognized that trade in services raised many complex issues and some delegations mentioned that labour-intensive services should not be overlooked.

445. The ESCAP secretariat was requested to continue to provide technical assistance to enhance the capabilities of developing countries in the final phase of the negotiations and after their conclusion.

446. The Commission noted that any trend towards regionalism and the proliferation of bilateral arrangements could potentially harm the spirit of multilateralism which was sought to be achieved through the GATT negotiations. Most delegations expressed concern that regional blocs might erode the free flow of trade and affect competitiveness. In that regard, apprehension was expressed about the establishment of the single European market in 1992 and the United States-Canada free trade area. However, representatives of a number of countries stated that the single European market would offer greater opportunities for exports of developing countries because of its size and high purchasing power. Another delegation observed that the United States-Canada free trade area would be trade-creating rather than trade-diverting and that existing low tariff levels in the free trade area would facilitate exports from the developing countries.

447. The Commission recognized the continuing importance of international trade in primary commodities for the economic development of the countries of the region. While it took note of the steps already taken by some developed countries to reduce the level of protection given to the agricultural sector of their economies, the Commission viewed with concern the increase in non-tariff barriers impeding trade in major tropical products of special interest to the developing countries of the region, especially the escalating level of protection in regard to value-added processed products. Some delegations urged the retention of generalized system of preferences (GSP) treatment and provision of compensation for the erosion of margins, combined with special and differential treatment for the exports of the developing countries.

448. Many delegations viewed the Common Fund for Commodities as a useful instrument for improving the trade prospects of commodity-exporting countries. While expressing concern over the limited size of the Common Fund, they hoped that it would become operational in the near future.

449. The Commission expressed the hope that the ongoing multilateral trade negotiations under the Uruguay Round would lead to liberalization of trade in the agricultural sector. In view of the close linkage between the development process and agriculture, the Commission advocated that the developmental dimension should be recognized in any new discipline on agriculture within the GATT framework in favour of the developing countries.

450. The Commission was of the view that there was a need in the multilateral trade negotiations to ensure ways and means to offset the negative effects of the reform process on the net food-importing developing countries. Some delegations noted that liberalized agricultural trade might lead to price increases in the short run, but developing countries would benefit in the medium and long run because of their inherent comparative advantage as producers of agricultural products.

451. The Commission recognized that there was considerable potential for developing countries to enter into more effective co-ordination of their strategies in regard to commodity production and trading activities. In that connection, it expressed appreciation to the secretariat of its ongoing technical assistance activities undertaken within the framework of regional co-operative arrangements in jute, silk and tropical timber. It urged the secretariat to intensify such activities and to extend regional co-operation to other commodities, especially in view of the rising demand for certain tropical products in developed country markets.

452. It therefore urged the secretariat to continue providing technical assistance and advisory services in commodity development to member countries.

453. The Commission, noting the current trends in the international trading system, appreciated the need

to exploit the potential for expansion of intraregional trade and economic co-operation. In that context, it expressed the view that the Bangkok Agreement (First Agreement on Trade Negotiations among Developing Member Countries of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific) was a useful regional instrument for the expansion of intraregional trade among the developing countries in the region.

454. The Commission noted with satisfaction that the Second Round of Negotiations under the Bangkok Agreement had been successfully concluded in May 1990 with tangible results in terms of increase in the product coverage and expansion of its membership. In that connection, the Commission welcomed the decision of Afghanistan and Papua New Guinea to accede to the Agreement, which it was felt would enhance its viability and effectiveness among its member countries.

455. The Commission also welcomed the announcement made by the representative of UNDP that the project on trade expansion and inter-enterprise investment promotion among developing countries of Asia and the Pacific was expected to be approved shortly by UNDP. That would enable the secretariat to pursue some of the important activities decided upon during the Second Round of Negotiations, including provision of technical assistance to prospective new members of the Agreement.

456. The Commission noted the statement made by the representative of the Asian Clearing Union (ACU) regarding the measures to be taken for the enlargement of the membership, including the organization of the first promotional workshop at Tehran in October 1990 and the expansion of the functions of ACU, and expressed the hope that more ESCAP members and associate members in the region would join ACU to further promote monetary co-operation in the region.

457. The Commission also heard the statement made by the representative of the Asian Reinsurance Corporation (ARC) that during 10 years of operation it had made operational profits exceeding $US 1.85 million, and had fostered close co-operation and collective self-reliance among the developing countries in the region.

458. The eligible ESCAP members were urged to join ARC to make it a truly regional institution. That would lessen their dependence on the traditional insurance markets, provide competition, and enable a greater share of business to be retained within the region and a share of the world insurance market to be obtained.

459. The Commission commended the efforts of the secretariat in implementing the UNDP-financed project entitled "Expansion of intraregional trade prospects and business opportunities in Asia and the Pacific in the 1990s", which would help the developing countries of the ESCAP region through the conduct of a comprehensive study on prospects for intraregional trade and investment; the organization of a network of research institutions and programme of research priorities; the development of a training curriculum and training materials on intraregional trade and business specially tailored to meet the needs of the region; and the establishment of a core cadre of training personnel. It was felt that those activities would meet the expressed needs of the developing countries of the ESCAP region.

460. The Commission commended the secretariat on its activities in the field of trade promotion and development. It took note of the progress made in the organization of the Asian International Silk Fair '90, which should stimulate trade in silk and silk products through improved buyer-seller contact. It urged the secretariat to organize similar commercially oriented fairs, particularly for handicrafts and craft products of Asian and Pacific developing countries.

461. The Commission urged the secretariat to intensify its activities in the field of trade promotion and development. It also urged the secretariat to provide assistance to the least developed, land-locked and island developing countries to enable them to derive greater benefits from expansion of exports. It endorsed the proposals to strengthen trade promotion organizations by including representation from both the public and private sectors. As a means of expanding intraregional trade within the rapidly changing trade environment, it supported the continued development of the Regional Trade Information Network (TISNET).

462. The Commission reaffirmed the usefulness of the secretariat's activities in the field of human resources development in international trade and urged that such activities be duly strengthened, particularly by organizing seminars, workshops and training courses on trade promotion and expansion for both the public and private sectors, giving special attention, wherever possible, to the needs of the least developed countries.

463. The Commission noted with appreciation the issuance of various useful publications, including some volumes of the *Traders' Manual for Asia and the Pacific* covering various countries of the region, *Guide to the Japanese Market - A Marketing Aid for Asian and Pacific Exporters* (3rd edition) and the studies on foreign investment incentive schemes relating to ESCAP members. It expressed the hope that the secretariat would continue to publish such useful information in support of regional trade promotion and development.

464. The Commission took note of the request of the delegation of Mongolia for technical assistance to facilitate the transition of the economy of the Mongolian People's Republic to a market-oriented one with state regulation, and to organize training programmes to acquaint its officials with international trading practices and regulations.

465. The Commission appreciated the contribution of the China International Trade Research and Training Centre for the Asian and Pacific Region in organizing the Symposium on Economic and Trade Co-operation between China and the Asian and Pacific region in October 1989 in collaboration with ESCAP, and noted the hope expressed in the statement by the representative of China that ESCAP would continue to give its support to the Centre in activities related to trade promotion and human resources development.

466. The Commission heard the statement of the representative of the Federal Republic of Germany concerning provision of the services of a regional

adviser on export promotion and financial assistance in the promotion of trade in silk, silk products, leather and leather products. It welcomed his statement that the Government would continue to support the activities of the secretariat in the field of export promotion.

467. The Commission noted with satisfaction the activities undertaken by the secretariat in the field of trade facilitation. It felt that those activities would be a major contribution towards reducing the cost of paperwork in the international trade of the developing countries of the ESCAP region and keep them abreast of the technological developments in that area. Recognizing that trade facilitation measures would be viable only if they were accepted and applied uniformly on a worldwide basis, it considered that interregional co-operation in the field was a step in the right direction. The Commission therefore observed that Economic and Social Council resolution 1989/118 on that subject was pertinent and timely.

468. It endorsed the project concept and objectives for interregional co-operation in trade facilitation as enumerated in the secretariat document. In that context, the United Nations Rules for Electronic Data Interchange for Administration, Commerce and Transport (UN/EDIFACT) were considered to be the future direction for conducting trade transactions, and it was observed that the developing countries should take steps to acquaint themselves with that new technological development in conducting international trade in order to derive maximum benefit from the projects being developed in that area.

469. The Commission noted the efforts being made by India for the simplification and standardization of export documentation. In that connection, it requested the secretariat to assist in the human resources development efforts of the countries in the field of trade facilitation.

470. It noted the suggestion that the ESCAP regional trade facilitation network, the establishment of which had been recommended by the Meeting of National Trade Facilitation Bodies held at Manila in January-February 1990, should become operational in the near future.

471. The Commission noted the close co-operation between ESCAP and other United Nations agencies and international organizations in the field of international trade and called for the continuation of such co-operation.

472. The Commission noted with appreciation the reaffirmation by UNDP of its active involvement in the area of international trade. It noted that during the forthcoming UNDP programming cycle, 1992-1996, there would be three major priority areas: human development, sustainable environment and natural resource management, and economic reform for sustainable development including international trade, export promotion and investment.

Tourism

473. The Commission reaffirmed the increasingly important role of tourism in the socio-economic development of the developing Asian and Pacific countries and strongly supported the ESCAP activities in that area. It reiterated that tourism should be given priority in the ESCAP programme and urged the secretariat to intensify its activities in that sector. The Commission recognized that there was need to expand the secretariat's staff resources for that purpose.

474. The Commission commended the secretariat on its implementation of the multi-year project on maximization of the socio-economic benefits from tourism development, which had begun in 1988 with financial assistance from the Government of Japan. It noted that many countries had benefited greatly from the various activities being implemented under the project, including the organization of three regional meetings: the Seminar on the Promotion of Tourism in the ESCAP Region; the Expert Group Meeting on the Measurement of the Economic Impact of Tourism by Input-output Analysis; and the Workshop on Human Resources Development in the Tourism Sector. It noted the work in progress to study the economic impact of tourism in Indonesia, Malaysia and Thailand, utilizing guidelines on input-output analysis of tourism formulated by ESCAP, and that a study on the environmental aspects of mountain tourism in Nepal was being conducted by the secretariat.

475. The Commission stressed that as a result of the rapid growth in tourism, the need to develop human resources had become a pressing problem. It commended the secretariat on the timely organization of the Workshop on Human Resources Development in the Tourism Sector, held at New Delhi in May 1990 in collaboration with the Ministry of Tourism, Government of India. The Commission noted the recommendations of the Workshop, which included the formation of a regional network on tourism education and training and the undertaking of studies on the needs and capabilities of existing tourism training institutes and on the feasibility of establishing regional institutes on tourism management. It requested the secretariat to intensify its efforts to assist developing countries in the development of human resources in the tourism sector. It stressed that the activities of the ESCAP/ILO Tourism Unit should be intensified with greater participation by ILO.

476. The Commission recognized the crucial importance of data on the scope and extent of the contribution of tourism and its economic impact for the formulation of appropriate national policies. It requested the secretariat to continue its efforts to assist member countries in that area.

477. The Commission observed that in some countries, unplanned development of the tourism industry had created, directly or indirectly, certain socio-cultural and environmental problems, and requested the secretariat to intensify activities to address those problems. It stressed that the secretariat should place more emphasis in its activities on the environmental impact of tourism, as those problems had already become acute in some countries.

478. The Commission stressed that tourism development issues in the least developed and Pacific island countries should receive the special attention of the secretariat.

479. The secretariat was requested to organize a seminar on tourism investment. The Commission took note of the request of the representative of Pakistan for

ESCAP assistance to that country in the conduct of a study on the environmental impact of tourism in the mountainous areas, and in the establishment of a hotel and tourism management institute. It took note of the suggestion made by the representative of Bangladesh that ESCAP should organize a meeting of national focal points of tourism and non-governmental tour initiators of the region to find ways and means to increase the flow of tourists to those countries where tourism was not flourishing. It took note of a request that a regional tourism development strategy be formulated by ESCAP. The secretariat was also requested to consider undertaking a regional study on the tourism industry with a view to developing the industry further while minimizing its negative impact.

480. The Commission noted the valuable co-operation provided by ILO, the World Tourism Organization (WTO) and the Pacific Asia Travel Association (PATA) for the regional meetings organized by ESCAP. It encouraged the secretariat to further strengthen co-operation with relevant organizations. The representative of WTO commended the secretariat on its work on tourism, and noted that ESCAP was the most active among the regional commissions in the tourism field. The Commission welcomed the assurance of WTO that it would extend full co-operation to ESCAP tourism activities. It noted with interest the work of WTO in the field of tourism.

481. The Commission expressed gratitude to the Government of Japan for its continued financial support of ESCAP tourism activities and for providing a tourism expert on a non-reimbursable loan basis.

Transport and communications

Regional maritime strategy study

482. The Commission had before it document E/ESCAP/714.

483. It recognized that shipping, transport and communications were basic ingredients for the economic and social development of countries in the ESCAP region and that poor infrastructure hindered development efforts. In that context, the Commission commended the secretariat on the achievements made in those fields.

484. The Commission considered the work being undertaken on the regional maritime strategy study project to be of particular importance to member countries in the region as it should help promote the planning of national shipping policy and cost control within ports. It noted that the project aimed at providing decision makers with assistance in the planning of maritime sector investments, taking into account developmental trends in the ESCAP region and encompassing many sectors of interest to member countries. The Commission noted the support that member countries in the region had given the project at the third expert advisory group meeting on the study and the tangible benefits that would materialize as the project moved towards the in-country implementation phase.

485. The Commission requested the secretariat to continue the project and supported the proposed future project activities, including further development, updating and refining of data bases and software, software support, the convening of training workshops, the publication of research and the provision of advisory services. In that context the Commission considered that the project should be adapted to meet the disparate needs of the ESCAP region and that in particular the developing Asian and South Pacific economies should be given priority. The Commission strongly urged that the necessary funds be allocated to the project to ensure its successful completion and requested that a presentation on the project models be given for decision makers attending the forthcoming Committee on Shipping, Transport and Communications so that they would be in a better position to introduce the models in their national planning processes.

486. The Commission expressed concern that the United Nations Statistical Office, United Nations Headquarters, might soon discontinue the production of the maritime transport statistics which were the basis of the regional maritime strategy study trade data base and of considerable use to the member countries in the region. The Commission requested the United Nations to seek urgently ways and means to ensure that that valuable source of information was maintained.

487. The Commission was informed by several delegations of the practical benefits they had already obtained from the provision of advisory services on the economic and financial planning models, recently developed by the secretariat, which assisted in evaluating the soundness of port investment projects. The Commission noted that with the development of other complementary investment models, on inland container depots and new rail line construction, countries of the region would be able to enhance their expertise in prioritizing investments, thereby making optimum investment choices at times of resource constraints.

488. The Commission noted the close co-operation between ESCAP and the Governments of China and Thailand on the PORTMIS (Port Management Information System) project which was currently being implemented in the port of Tianjin, China, and had already been implemented by the Port Authority of Thailand, to improve the management and efficiency of the ports concerned. It noted the wish of the Government of China that the implementation of that significant project be completed with the assistance of ESCAP and the useful experience gained be extended to other ports in China.

489. The Commission noted with appreciation the co-operation extended to the project by: the Government of Australia, through the ongoing provision of a transport economist; the Government of Japan, through its joint sponsorship of the project and the provision of a shipping expert, currently acting as deputy project manager; the Government of the Netherlands, through its joint sponsorship of the project; the Government of the USSR, for the offer to remit relevant statistical data on the work of fleets and ports as an input into the data bank; and the Government of the United Kingdom, through the provision of the project manager on a non-reimbursable loan basis.

490. The Commission also recognized with gratitude the support given to the secretariat by the Government of Japan in co-operation with the Overseas Coastal Area Development Institute in the organization, hosting and sponsorship of a series of seminars on port development policy. The Commission also noted that the Government of Japan wished to continue its assistance to ESCAP in the future.

491. The provision to ESCAP of a specialist in port economics to assist in the establishment of model legislation for ports in the region by the Government of France and its determination to continue that support to the programme in the future was noted by the Commission with appreciation. The offer of Malaysia to share its experience with other countries on port privatization and to assist in the port legislation project was also welcomed by the Commission.

The Asian Highway network

492. The Commission had before it document E/ESCAP/715.

493. It reaffirmed the important role of the Asian Highway in the facilitation of transport of people and goods within and outside the region, in the promotion of trade and tourism and in bringing countries of the region closer economically, commercially and socially. It recognized that the decisions made by China, Mongolia and Myanmar to join the project opened up the possibility of providing alternative road connections between Europe and Asia as well as the development of a new phase in land transport infrastructure improvement in the region.

494. The Commission noted with interest the construction project of the road-cum-rail Mekong River bridge linking Thailand and the Lao People's Democratic Republic, and the feasibility and design study of a bridge between Myanmar and Thailand, which would complete important transport linkages. The generous assistance of the Governments of Australia and Japan in the implementation of the projects was also noted with appreciation. ESCAP members were invited to provide financial support to the construction of the Myanmar-Thai bridge.

495. In view of the above developments, the Commission agreed that the secretariat should review the Asian Highway project and develop a new programme to revitalize the Asian land transport infrastructure, which could include the Asian Highway project and Trans-Asian Railway project, by examining the terms of reference and objectives of both projects, their design standards, facilitation problems, uniformity of procedures and so on, and that the report of such a review should be considered at an intergovernmental meeting.

496. The Commission felt that the main emphasis in the development of the Asian Highway should be placed on eliminating gaps in the network and upgrading the existing highways with a view to ensuring the safety and convenience of road users.

497. The Commission noted the request of the Government of Malaysia that the recently completed North-South Expressway replace Federal Highway route No. 1 as the Malaysian section of Asian Highway route No. 2, and that the Asian Highway route map for Singapore-Malaysia-Thailand should be amended accordingly. One delegation suggested that such ESCAP maps should distinguish clearly between two-lane highways and divided highways, for the benefit of users.

498. The Commission noted with appreciation the decision of China to include Highway 107 in the Asian Highway network, as a first stage in the development of the Asian Highway route in that country.

499. The Commission expressed gratitude to the Government of Japan for its continuing support for the project, including the provision of a highway expert to ESCAP on a non-reimbursable basis and for offering to host a seminar-cum-study tour on road bridge maintenance, to be held in Japan in October 1990.

Population

500. The Commission had before it documents E/ESCAP/716 and E/ESCAP/746; it commended the secretariat on the excellence of that documentation, which proved useful for guiding the discussion of issues in the field of population.

501. The Commission recognized the inter-relationships between demographic factors and the development process, as well as the necessity to integrate population into overall socio-economic development planning. It stressed the importance of scientific analysis and effective dissemination of results so that they could be appreciated and utilized by the users concerned. In view of the rapidly changing economic structure of many developing countries in the region and the necessity of placing emphasis on solving short-run economic and social problems, the Commission emphasized that more up-to-date information and research on various aspects of population problems and related development issues should be brought to the attention of planners and policy makers.

502. The Commission commended the work of the secretariat in assisting members and associate members in that regard and called upon the secretariat to continue such efforts. It emphasized the need to develop and conduct appropriate policy research and training programmes, organize seminars and workshops, and prepare the necessary manuals with a view to providing guidance to planners and policy makers, among others. Those activities would help to strengthen national capabilities in the process of integrating population into development planning.

503. The Commission observed that demographic changes were closely related to structural changes in the economy. Migration from rural to urban areas was exceeding the ability of cities to provide adequate housing, employment, education and health services for their populations in many areas of the region. As a result, a large percentage of urban populations was residing in slums and squatter settlements, harming their quality of life and furthering environmental degradation. The size and growth of the many mega-cities in the region had led to especially difficult problems for national and urban planners.

504. The Commission noted that, where national population and economic growth rates were

mismatched, international migration of workers often occurred. Such migration between countries of the region was accelerating and the Commission requested the secretariat to assist countries in monitoring and developing guidelines in that regard.

505. The Commission noted that several countries of the region were experiencing rapid increases in the size and proportion of the elderly population (persons 60 years of age and above) and, in that context, anticipated that the needs related to social security would increase and be diversified. The Commission thus recognized the importance of restructuring social security systems in order to make them more durable and reliable for the coming decades.

506. The Commission stressed that improved roles and status of women were essential for upgrading the quality of life of the population. Women's participation at all levels of population programmes was necessary for their effective implementation. Similarly, women made large contributions to all sectors of the economy and an enhanced decision-making role for them would be beneficial for economic development.

507. The Commission noted with concern that the Asian and Pacific region currently faced major problems of deforestation, desertification, air and water pollution and other forms of environmental degradation. It also noted that those environmental problems were essentially interrelated with population problems. Therefore, the Commission recommended that the interrelationship between population and the environment and natural resources should be carefully investigated and the findings from such studies disseminated to policy makers and planners for more effective preventive and curative solutions to the problem.

508. The Commission, recalling the deliberations at the forty-fifth session, reiterated that in the decade of the 1990s population issues would encompass much broader aspects of life, cutting across social and economic fields and making necessary multi-sectoral approaches for developing comprehensive population policies and programmes. Since the Commission was deeply concerned about the consequences of population growth, such policies and programmes should also pay due attention to the complex interrelationships between population, development, resources and the environment in order to achieve sustainable development.

509. The Commission reiterated the need for changing the orientation of family planning programmes to emphasize the quality of life without diminishing the importance of controlling population growth. It emphasized the importance of turning the population of a country into an asset. In that endeavour, improvement of the health and educational status of women should receive priority attention so that they could participate in the development process more effectively. Child survival programmes should also be an important element of the new policies and programmes for the 1990s. Hence, the Commission recommended that concerted efforts be made to develop an integrated approach to family planning and urged the secretariat to assist the members and associate members in developing such an approach.

510. The Commission stressed the importance of population growth in the development equation. It recognized that the implementation of effective family planning programmes would remain a great challenge in the 1990s. To increase effectiveness, the emphasis of the programmes should be redirected towards the qualitative aspects of service delivery. The key to improved quality of services was a wide choice of contraceptive methods duly reflecting national characteristics and cultural traditions, easy accessibility of services and proper counselling about various methods of contraception. The Commission expressed appreciation of the secretariat's efforts in taking the initiative to assist countries of the region in redirecting programme emphasis.

511. The Commission recognized the importance of the development of dynamic information, education and communication strategies for family planning programmes along with effective service delivery systems. It attached high priority to interpersonal communication through the use of grassroots-level health and family planning workers. The Commission commended the efforts of the secretariat in that regard and urged that activities in that area be further expanded.

512. In order to put family planning in the larger context of local development, the Commission felt that it was necessary to involve the local community in planning, developing and evaluating programmes. It expressed appreciation of the efforts of the secretariat in that regard and urged it to strengthen its activities to popularize community participation approaches in countries of the region and assist them in developing self-reliant programmes based on community participation.

513. The Commission reiterated the need for "reaching the unreached" target populations, particularly men, adolescents and youth, and the underprivileged in urban slums and remote rural areas. In discussing those aspects, the Commission highlighted the role and responsibility of men in popularizing population development concepts. It urged the secretariat to assist the countries of the region in developing programme strategies to reach those target populations, particularly men, who should play a positive role in increasing the acceptance of family planning and responsible parenthood, by extending services as well as promoting motivational campaigns.

514. The Commission attached high priority to the development of management information systems for monitoring and evaluating programme performance, and measuring the impact and efficiency of national programmes. It commended the efforts of the secretariat in that regard and urged it to extend assistance for the development of effective and efficient management information systems for population development programmes. In particular, since some countries experienced problems not only at the data level but also in the analysis, packaging and dissemination of management information, especially to the lower levels in the government hierarchy, the Commission requested the secretariat to provide assistance in improving management information systems as it had done in the area of bibliographic and numerical data base development and utilization.

515. The Commission recognized the need for skill development of family planning personnel in countries of the region. It commended the efforts of the secretariat in training family planning researchers/evaluation personnel in the use of microcomputers for demographic analysis and family planning evaluation, and recommended that those activities be continued.

516. The Commission commended the regional advisory services provided by the secretariat on population matters. It recommended that those services should be continued and further strengthened.

517. The Commission recommended that the quality-of-life activities undertaken as part of national population programmes should be reflected in the regional strategies for social development initiated by the secretariat.

518. It commended the secretariat on its work in the area of population information development, stating that population information formed one of the cornerstones of national development; it was the basis upon which effective policies and workable programmes were formulated, publicized, implemented and monitored.

519. While recognizing that Governments depended on accurate and timely data and technical information for such purposes, it noted that the challenge developing countries faced was not only to obtain sufficient population data and information but also to analyse properly, synthesize and disseminate effectively such information in forms that could be used by target audiences.

520. The Commission observed that developing countries often lacked modern information technologies and trained personnel to carry out such functions, which were part of a well-planned and vigorous population information system. It expressed appreciation of the secretariat's activities in assisting the developing countries of the region in overcoming such deficiencies. It requested the secretariat to continue providing technical assistance to those countries to enable them to become more self-reliant in meeting the information needs of users.

521. In view of the large amount of information currently being generated in and on the region, and with the continuous advances being made in the development of information-handling technology, the Commission urged the secretariat to continue to organize training programmes, especially those on the use of microcomputers for various applications. It also recommended that the secretariat should develop software packages, standardized information systems and data bases as part of its activities as co-ordinator of the Asia-Pacific Population Information Network (Asia-Pacific POPIN).

522. The Commission further encouraged the secretariat, where possible, to link its population information activities with human resources development and poverty alleviation programmes in order to make them more effective. It also recognized the value of linkages with the Health Literature, Library and Information Services (HELLIS) network of the World Health Organization, and the links with the informal information network of the UNESCO Population Education Clearing-house.

523. In those developing countries that had been able to computerize fully their population information systems and related data bases, the improvement of telecommunication networks was a new area requiring attention. The Commission endorsed the secretariat's initiatives in various applications of computer and telecommunication technologies and urged that it give greater focus to such technologies during the decade of the 1990s through training and other activities in those fields.

524. The Commission recognized the need for the secretariat to foster further consolidation of national information resources and expertise for the benefit of the developing countries in the region. In that context, it supported the notion of pooling the resources of individual population information centres in the region, noting that each national population information centre had certain unique capabilities and areas of specialization which could be shared for the advancement of other national centres.

525. Since the secretariat acted as the focal point for development in the region, the Commission urged that it continue to promote TCDC, since such an approach enabled those countries to share information and benefit from the experience of one another.

526. The Commission also emphasized the need to improve overall awareness of population issues. It requested the secretariat to assist developing countries not only in serving the information needs of policy makers, planners and programme managers but also in improving information linkages with the general public, target groups and end-user beneficiaries through multi-media campaigns, extension, and information, education and communication activities to supplement and strengthen interpersonal communication efforts. The Commission recognized that population information was one of the main tools for the implementation of population programmes.

527. The Commission noted with appreciation the invitation conveyed by the representative of China to take part in the celebration in October 1990 of the tenth anniversary of the establishment of the China Population Information and Research Centre, which had been set up with financial assistance from the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and technical assistance from the secretariat.

528. The Commission confirmed its acceptance of the offer of the Government of Indonesia to host the Fourth Asian and Pacific Population Conference at Jakarta in 1992. In expressing appreciation of that offer, the Commission welcomed the holding of the ministerial-level Conference because it would provide the opportunity to develop comprehensive population policies and programmes for the benefit of developing countries in the region.

529. With regard to the secretariat's preparation for the Conference, the Commission called for the early convening by the Executive Secretary of a preparatory committee, whose membership should be based on the principle of fair geographical distribution. The Commission felt that such a committee could play a major role in elaborating the details concerned with the Conference.

530. The Commission recommended that the secretariat should maintain close collaboration with UNFPA as well as other United Nations agencies concerned with population issues. It recognized the need for increased funding for population activities in view of the increased demands of countries in the region, and expressed gratitude for the support provided to the secretariat and national Governments by UNFPA, and donor countries and agencies.

531. The Commission unanimously adopted resolution 46/1 on strengthening the population activities of the Commission in the 1990s.

Transnational corporations

532. The Commission had before it document E/ESCAP/717.

533. It complimented the secretariat on the analysis and insights in the document, and endorsed the suggestions aimed at strengthening the capabilities of host countries in dealing with transnational corporations.

534. The Commission noted trends and problems, as well as government policies and measures relating to the activities and impact of transnational corporations. In particular, it discussed various issues regarding the role of those corporations in economic restructuring, regional co-operation and integration, and environmental management.

535. The Commission observed that recent changes in the global economy had not only affected the pattern of foreign direct investment but also induced countries in the region to restructure their economies in line with the changing international division of labour. However, the Commission noted that developing countries' share of investment inflows had declined from 27 per cent of the total in the period 1981-1983 to 21 per cent in the period 1984-1987. The drop had been felt particularly in the least developed countries, while the rapidly growing Asian economies continued to attract increased foreign direct investment.

536. The Commission observed that some developing countries had taken steps to introduce liberal legislative and institutional measures to facilitate foreign investment, but those alone might not be adequate to achieve the intended objectives. It generally agreed that it might be desirable for the developing countries concerned to improve their investment climate in order to enhance their share of foreign investment. One delegation suggested the following measures to maximize the benefits of transnational corporation participation in the least developed countries:

(a) Encourage the formation of joint ventures and establish linkages with local enterprises so that foreign direct investment activities would act as a catalyst for the growth of domestic firms;

(b) Enhance the development of small and medium-scale domestic industries so that they could link symbiotically with foreign enterprises;

(c) Establish clear industrial policies so that incentives and protection given to investors, both domestic and foreign, did not distort factor market signals;

(d) Ensure that, in giving support and incentives to foreign investors, domestic firms with potential were not neglected or starved of resources;

(e) Ensure that appropriate measures in such areas as human resources development, science and technology were taken so that the host countries were truly able to absorb, adapt and even advance new technology and acquire experience from the relationship established with foreign investors.

537. The Commission generally agreed that although the restructuring process might take various forms, transnational corporations could play a useful role, such as transferring technology and management skills, and developing appropriate marketing strategies, as well as providing export outlets. However, one delegation pointed out that transnational corporations might be unwilling to transfer their technology and know-how to the developing host countries. The attitude of transnational corporations had sometimes been indifferent or passive on the subject of transferring core technologies to developing countries. Therefore, transnational corporations should consider the economic and social policy goals of member countries and act in such a manner as to contribute to the economic development of those countries.

538. The Commission agreed that it could not be assumed that transnational corporations would always act as efficient instruments of structural adjustment. Furthermore, the corporations might dominate in certain industries and "crowd out" local enterprises. Most of all, there was the apprehension that transnational corporations, in their efforts to maximize global profits, might not act in the best interests of the host country.

539. Nevertheless, the Commission agreed that there was a considerable potential role for transnational corporations to assist developing countries in enhancing the private sector role in their economies, working within the framework of national development objectives. It was emphasized, however, that transnational corporations should play only a supplementary role: the major effort to restructure the economy should be initiated by the countries themselves.

540. The Commission emphasized that transnational corporation objectives and practices should conform to those of their host countries, particularly in relation to national development objectives. In that regard, one delegation suggested that the secretariat should intensify its efforts to enhance the contribution of transnational corporations to the development of the ESCAP region, while minimizing their negative effects.

541. The Commission also focused its attention on the need for countries of the region to co-operate and exchange information on matters relating to transnational corporations. To that end, national information systems on such corporations needed to be developed and should be linked to form regional and subregional information networks. There was general agreement that ESCAP should initiate action to foster closer co-operation among members and associate

members in the formulation of policies and regulations and in the exchange of information.

542. In view of the apparent benefits of regional co-operation and integration on the one hand, and the slow progress of efforts to achieve them on the other, the Commission generally agreed that it might be useful to re-examine the concept and structure of regional integration in the ESCAP region to determine how regional co-operation schemes could be improved. One delegation suggested that the transnational corporation contribution to regional development and integration could be enhanced by:

(a) Exchange of information and experience between developing countries in the region through bilateral and multilateral co-operation in the fields of foreign direct investment and technology transfer;

(b) Re-examination of the concept and structure of regional integration in the ESCAP region, with a view to determining how regional co-operation schemes could be introduced or improved.

However, another delegation pointed out that transnational corporations should not be forced to take measures to promote regional integration.

543. The Commission agreed that the protection of the environment was a major concern confronting developing economies. The need for achieving sustainable development, particularly through the control of pollution-intensive industries, and for encouraging the transfer of environmentally sound technologies in developing countries, was also emphasized. Referring to the establishment of a set of criteria for sustainable development management prepared by the United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations (UNCTC), one delegation pointed out that the new criteria should be consistent with the existing international guidelines, such as those provided by the International Chamber of Commerce. One delegation took a favourable stance on the proposal that host countries should develop comprehensive waste management schemes, and confirmed its adherence, together with 40 other countries, to the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal.

544. The Commission expressed concern over the relocation of pollution-intensive industries to developing countries in order to avoid stringent environmental regulations in the developed countries. However, one delegation emphasized that developing countries should not impose on transnational corporations environmental regulations and standards of conduct that were not applicable to local firms.

545. The Commission generally agreed that there was a need for rules to be established governing the relationship between host Governments and transnational corporations. It noted that new challenges, such as the volatility of financial markets, environmental concerns and transfer-pricing, had reinforced the need for a code to lay down international standards of conduct. Some delegations stressed the urgent need for the adoption and implementation of the draft of the United Nations code of conduct on transnational corporations.

546. One delegation, however, pointed out that the draft code was not acceptable in its existing form and opposed its adoption. It also pointed out that the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific was not the appropriate forum in which to debate the merits of the code, which had been under discussion at meetings convened at the request of the United Nations Commission on Transnational Corporations.

Shelter strategies towards the year 2000

547. The Commission took note of the "Progress report on formulation and implementation of shelter strategies towards the year 2000" (E/ESCAP/718), prepared in pursuance of Commission resolution 268 (XLIV), and appreciated the progress made in many member countries.

548. It noted with interest the following developments as reported by various countries. The Government of China had reformed its housing sector by emphasizing the co-operation of the State, enterprises, co-operatives and individuals and developing the housing finance system, and had made impressive progress during the current five-year plan period in the construction of housing units. In India, a national shelter strategy had been adopted emphasizing four main areas: housing for low-income groups, employment generation, reform of the legal framework and resource mobilization. Indonesia was currently implementing its fifth national development plan, 1989-1994, with priority accorded to the housing sector, and was considering a long-term strategy for a period of 25 years; a national housing and human settlements policy was under preparation, covering such key issues as spatial development planning, land and infrastructure provision and the institutional and legal framework. The Islamic Republic of Iran, while facing serious problems in housing for low-income groups, had been able to improve housing conditions and, in the current five-year plan, was emphasizing land preparation, rental housing, co-operative modes of shelter development, building material industries and industrialization of construction for massive housing programmes. Myanmar had made great efforts in land and infrastructure development and launched town extension schemes to meet the shortage of urban housing; important tasks currently being undertaken included upgrading and extension of sanitation and infrastructure in urban areas. Pakistan was formulating national human settlements and housing policies and finalizing a national reference manual on planning and infrastructure standards and a national building code; it had also developed several programmes, especially in the area of providing free land for housing to the lowest income groups in rural as well as urban areas. The Philippines was currently implementing a number of projects on the formulation and implementation of housing policies and shelter strategies in several regions with the support of UNDP/UNCHS (United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat)), and the Government of Finland. In Sri Lanka, after completion of the Million Houses Programme, a new ambitious programme to provide 1.5 million houses had been undertaken; the new programme emphasized the participatory approach, as well as the role of the Government as a prime supporter and facilitator with the involvement of the community and the private sector in the implementation of shelter projects. Thailand had

established a national sub-committee on housing policy which was currently formulating housing standards for low-income people. Viet Nam placed great emphasis on shelter issues, and had in recent years initiated reforms in the shelter finance system with the objective of mobilizing community resources for housing.

549. The Commission recommended that the secretariat should organize exchange programmes for sharing experience and expertise in the formulation and implementation of national shelter strategies. It noted with appreciation the offer of Sri Lanka to share its experience in human settlements policy. The Commission also appreciated the interest of the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran in organizing a seminar on national shelter strategy formulation. It suggested that the secretariat should take the initiative in establishing a network of focal points and lead agencies concerned with shelter strategy formulation and implementation, so as to provide a forum for further regional co-operation. The Commission urged donor countries and agencies to provide the necessary financial support to enable the secretariat to organize regional exchange programmes on shelter strategy formulation.

550. The Commission noted the specific request of the Government of Bangladesh for assistance from the secretariat in the modernization of the land information system, and the request of the Government of Myanmar that co-operation with the secretariat in the field of human settlements be strengthened. It also took note of the request of the Islamic Republic of Iran that the secretariat extend assistance in studies on various areas of human settlements, including metropolitan environmental management, and building materials and construction technologies.

Transport and Communications Decade for Asia and the Pacific, 1985-1994: review of progress of implementation

551. The Commission had before it document E/ESCAP/719.

552. It reaffirmed the crucial role of transport and communications in economic and social development. It considered the programme of the Transport and Communications Decade for Asia and the Pacific, 1985-1994 as a means by which the developing members and associate members of the region could intensify their efforts towards the development and improvement of transport and communications infrastructure and services.

553. The Commission commended the secretariat on the wide range of activities implemented in the field of transport and communications, including those related to human resources development and transfer of technology. It expressed support for the continued efforts of the secretariat in that field.

554. The Commission noted with satisfaction the efforts made by the secretariat in organizing five intercountry missions in connection with the mid-term review of the Transport and Communications Decade, and expressed gratitude for the financial support of the review provided by the Governments of Australia, France, the Federal Republic of Germany, Japan, the Netherlands and Norway, and by UNDP. It appreciated the inter-agency co-operation rendered by ILO, ICAO, UPU, ITU and IMO in connection with the mid-term review. The Commission recognized that the review was designed to assess the impact of the Decade and progress made at national, subregional and regional levels; to identify crucial short- and long-term transport and communications problems in the region; and to review the priorities of the regional programme of action for the second half of the Decade.

555. The Commission requested that the final report of the mid-term review be made available to the members and associate members and other interested parties as early as possible. In that context, the Commission took note of the suggestions made by UNDP and the Government of the Netherlands that the report should consider the degree of implementation of the Decade objectives, the effect of the Decade on development plans, and the co-ordination of activities between all the organizations involved.

556. On the basis of the interim report of the mid-term review, the Commission recommended that the second half of the Decade should focus on, *inter alia*, human resources development, transfer of technology, promotion of TCDC, strengthening of intraregional and interregional linkages, intermodal integration and the optimum use of resources through integrated planning of transport and communications, with particular emphasis on the problems and needs of the least developed, land-locked and Pacific island countries as well as those of other developing Asian and Pacific countries. One delegation recommended that the secretariat should disseminate on a regular basis information on the progress of implementation of the Decade programme at the national level.

557. The Commission endorsed the convening of a meeting of senior officials responsible for transport and communications to consider the final report of the mid-term review for the Decade immediately preceding the thirteenth session of the Committee on Shipping, Transport and Communications, scheduled to be held at Bangkok in December 1990.

558. Recognizing the importance of interagency co-operation and co-ordination, the Commission supported the idea of an inter-agency meeting being held prior to the meeting of senior officials responsible for transport and communications.

559. The representative of the United Nations Development Programme stated that UNDP had actively supported the Decade since its inception, as evidenced by the allocation of 30 per cent of its total regional programme to transport and communications, including approximately $US 6 million for the implementation of 16 Decade regional projects, out of its special programme reserve; priority would continue to be accorded to transport and communications in the fifth programming cycle. He advised the countries to consider the use of country IPF (indicative planning figure) funds to support regional activities at the national level. He further informed the Commission that requests for UNDP assistance would henceforth be considered under a programme approach.

560. The Commission took note of the report of the secretariat regarding the preparation of the study on the viability and cost-effectiveness of establishing a regional inland water transport centre in Bangladesh

and of the alternatives of strengthening the secretariat or using a network approach, and the wish expressed by one country that a decision on that matter be taken as early as possible. It also noted that the study on telecommunications development in the ESCAP region had been undertaken in response to Commission resolution 270 (XLIV) of 20 April 1988. It noted that those two reports would be submitted to the Committee on Shipping, Transport and Communications at its thirteenth session.

561. The representative of the International Civil Aviation Organization stated that the growth in international air transport during the past decade had followed the overall growth of the region. For example, the number of passengers carried globally on scheduled services had increased almost 50 per cent since 1980. It was forecast that by the year 2000, air travel demand would have doubled, requiring large expenditure on new infrastructure, or upgrading of that already existing, and human resources development. He highlighted a few major issues facing air transport, including the problem of civil aviation security, air space congestion and lack of capital to upgrade facilities. In order to handle the anticipated traffic safely and efficiently, ICAO had established the Future Air Navigation Systems (FANS) Committee in 1983 to study and assess new concepts and technology for communications, navigation, surveillance and air traffic management. He reiterated the continued support of ICAO for the aims of the Transport and Communications Decade.

562. The Commission expressed its gratitude to the Governments of Australia, China, France, the Federal Republic of Germany, India, Japan, Malaysia, the Netherlands, Norway, New Zealand, the USSR, the United Kingdom, and the United States, and particularly to UNDP, for the contributions they had made for the implementation of Decade projects. It also noted with appreciation the issuance of a set of postage stamps by Bangladesh and a postcard by China, and the offers made by the USSR to conduct a seminar-cum-study tour in that country in 1991-1992, on the impact of port/shipping operations on goods delivery time, to provide fellowships in the field of maritime transport in addition to 35 fellowships provided annually in the field of railways, and to issue a set of postage stamps to commemorate and publicize the Decade.

Progress reports on regional institutions, special regional projects and other regional bodies

Administrative and financial issues related to the regional institutions

563. The Commission had before it document E/ESCAP/720 and Corr.1.

564. Introducing the item, the Executive Secretary informed the Commission that the financial condition of the Asian and Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology (APCTT) and of the Regional Co-ordination Centre for Research and Development of Coarse Grains, Pulses, Roots and Tuber Crops in the Humid Tropics of Asia and the Pacific (CGPRT Centre) remained very weak, and the viability of APCTT had become particularly tenuous. Neither the financial target of $US 250,000 for meeting the institutional costs of APCTT nor that of $US 400,000 for the CGPRT Centre had been reached in 1989. He expressed the view that it should not be too difficult to meet those deficits since the Commission had in the past recognized the value of the services rendered by the regional institutions. The Commission was reminded that the regional institutions were in a position to attract substantial programme support resources provided their core institutional costs were met. In that connection, the Executive Secretary pointed out that despite rising costs and inflation, the total amount of institutional support needed had remained modest.

565. Referring to the particularly serious situation of APCTT, which had experienced a financial shortfall since 1986, the Executive Secretary informed the Commission that unless contributions were increased substantially, it would be extremely difficult, if not impossible, to meet all the payment obligations of the Centre. Furthermore, in view of the decision of UNDP not to provide any direct programme support to APCTT after the conclusion of the current project, the financial support required would increase to $US 450,000, including the institutional costs of $US 250,000. In that connection, the Executive Secretary expressed heartfelt appreciation to the Government of Japan of the financial assistance provided on an urgent basis, which had been instrumental in enabling APCTT to continue with programme activities for the current year. He also thanked the Government of India for initiating construction of the new APCTT building at New Delhi and expressed the hope that relocation of the Centre could be completed by the third quarter of 1991.

566. Regarding the CGPRT Centre, the Executive Secretary informed the Commission that the cash flow for operational activities continued to cause serious concern. Since the Centre had so far managed to meet its financial obligations by applying severe austerity measures, it was not in a position to expand its activities unless contributions were increased.

567. While expressing appreciation of the generous financial support provided to the Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific (SIAP) by the host Government of Japan, the Executive Secretary urged the developing countries that were the beneficiaries of SIAP to enlarge their contributions so as to demonstrate their willingness to support SIAP and to ensure its viability.

568. The Commission took note of the financial situation of the regional institutions, as presented in document E/ESCAP/720, and the remarks of the Executive Secretary. It expressed concern at the continuing lack of financial viability of the institutions and recognized the urgent need to improve their financial situation, as suggested in the conclusions and recommendations in document E/ESCAP/720. The Commission also expressed concern at the withdrawal of UNDP programme assistance in that regard and suggested that alternative funding arrangements should be sought.

Regional Co-ordination Centre for Research and Development of Coarse Grains, Pulses, Roots and Tuber Crops in the Humid Tropics of Asia and the Pacific

569. The Commission had before it document E/ESCAP/721 and Corr.1, which contained the report by the Governing Board of the CGPRT Centre regarding the implementation of the Centre's programmes in 1989. The document also included a brief report on management and administration, financial status and issues for consideration. The Commission endorsed the report and commended the progress and achievements of the Centre during 1989.

570. The Commission expressed appreciation that in 1989 the Centre had continued to undertake its programme activities effectively and had produced tangible results, providing concrete information and useful recommendations for its target beneficiaries. It also noted that the implementation of the programmes was in line with the directions and priorities indicated in a perspective plan which had been endorsed by the Governing Board in January 1989 as a policy reference paper. Moreover, the Commission expressed general satisfaction at the new direction pursued through all the Centre's programmes, as reflected in the work programme for 1990, which would have a greater impact on a larger number of countries. The Commission also noted with satisfaction the Centre's efforts to place more balanced emphasis among its three programmes: information and documentation, human resources development, and research.

571. The Commission noted with satisfaction that in the course of programme implementation in 1989, close linkages had been maintained or newly established with an increasing number of member Governments. It also acknowledged that the Centre had co-operated closely with national, regional and international research and development institutions and agencies. Those included the Centre de coopération internationale en recherche agronomique pour le développement/département des systèmes agraires (CIRAD/DSA), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the International Potato Centre (CIP), the International Maize and Wheat Improvement Centre (CIMMYT), the Asian Vegetable Research and Development Centre (AVRDC), the Royal Tropical Institute (KIT) (the Netherlands), the Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR), the International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-arid Tropics (ICRISAT), and the International Centre for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT).

572. With regard to the implementation of the Centre's activities during 1989, the Commission was informed that the Centre had issued 11 publications, including research reports, a new working paper series, and several other papers. The distribution network and users' services had been expanded and the number of copies distributed had increased considerably. The Centre had thus established itself as an effective publication and documentation entity able to serve the needs of users regarding matters relating to CGPRT crops. In that connection, the Commission expressed appreciation of the effort made by the Centre to recover the cost of those activities, so as to ensure their sustainability. The Commission appreciated the progress achieved in the establishment of a regional statistical data base on CGPRT crops and endorsed the proposed expansion of the project to several other countries, so that it could take on a proper regional perspective and become more valuable to users.

573. Regarding the human resources development programme, the Commission noted that with the arrival of a full-time training officer in May 1989, financially supported by the Government of the Netherlands, the Centre's capacity in that respect had been strengthened substantially. The Commission expressed satisfaction that the Centre had drawn up a work plan, including a strategy regarding its human resources development programme, and in line with that had identified specific subjects and workshops and seminars for future years. It was informed that the Centre had organized two training workshops: (i) a workshop on adaptive on-farm research to recommend to small farmers appropriate technology for yield improvement of food legumes and coarse grains; and (ii) a workshop on the regional statistical data base system for CGPRT crops. A total of 47 participants from nine countries and related institutions had attended.

574. The Commission was also informed that during the period under review, the Centre had completed six research projects. It noted with appreciation the Centre's effort towards prioritization of research areas, such as employment and income generation, policy-related issues, marketing, processing, private sector involvement, and on-farm research with the participation of all the people concerned. The Commission noted the intention of the Centre to disseminate research findings and recommendations directly to target beneficiaries. It also noted that while the results of individual studies were more or less limited to the specific countries or subregions in which projects were implemented, they also had implications for other countries or subregions having similar socio-economic conditions. In that connection, it was suggested that the Centre should consider the expansion of collaborative research projects on which both the Centre staff and experts in developing countries could work together.

575. Moreover, the Commission was informed that the Governing Board and the Technical Advisory Committee of the Centre, at their respective sessions in January 1990, had considered a proposal on a planning workshop and agreed that it would be held in the autumn of 1990 on the basis of a strategic planning paper to be prepared by that time.

576. The Commission was informed about the staffing position of the Centre, which included 8 Professional and 14 support staff as of 31 December 1989. Five additional Professional staff would be assigned in 1990, subject to the availability of funds, in order to cope with the programme of work. It was suggested that the Centre consider engaging more experts from developing countries.

577. The Commission was also informed that the total cash contributions during 1989 had amounted to $US 699,000. In addition, the Centre had received contributions in kind, including expert technical services, estimated at $US 417,000. The Commission expressed sincere appreciation of the generous support provided by the Governments of Bangladesh, France, Indonesia, Japan, Nepal, the Netherlands, the Philippines and the Republic of Korea, and by the Commission of the European Communities. It also noted with gratitude the financial support given by

international institutions such as CIP and UNDP. Furthermore, the Commission expressed appreciation of the services of technical experts provided to the Centre by France, Indonesia, Japan, the Netherlands and Thailand. It was further informed that the Governing Board had approved budget requirements for 1990 amounting to $US 1,788,000. That amount, based on the programme of work for 1990, was considered necessary in order to undertake the programmes planned. That, however, was still subject to the availability of funds.

578. The Commission recognized that the Centre, having completed its formative stage, was now prepared to provide technical assistance to a wider clientele in a greater number of developing countries of the ESCAP region. To that effect, the Commission acknowledged that in order to ensure continuous and expanding operations, both programme-specific funds and institutional support resources were required. Particularly in view of the fact that effective implementation and further expansion of programmes had been and would be constrained by the limited availability of institutional support funds, the Commission expressed concern regarding the Centre's vulnerable financial base, especially with respect to the support funds.

579. Cognizant of the financial situation of the Centre, the Commission appealed to the members and associate members, particularly the developing recipient countries in a position to do so, to make new and increased cash contributions for institutional support, using as guidance an indicative minimum voluntary cash contribution of $US 1,000 for the least developed countries and $US 15,000 for other recipients. At the same time, the Commission also asked developed countries and other donor agencies to make the utmost effort to increase their contributions to the Centre.

Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific

580. The Commission had before it document E/ESCAP/722. It noted that SIAP had expanded its training programmes in the field of statistics as well as in automatic data processing, and that a total of 249 participants from 36 members and associate members had attended various SIAP training programmes during the period under review.

581. The Commission recognized that improvement of the statistical data base in the countries of the region was essential for planning and monitoring development programmes. Member countries requested the Institute to continue its courses in statistics and data processing, taking into account the changing needs of the statistical offices of the countries. The Commission emphasized the need for curriculum development and training courses to be developed on such subjects as small area statistics, regional accounts, environmental statistics, sampling design and social indicators, particularly on children and women. The need for more training in analysis and interpretation of statistics, in the use of new techniques, and in report writing, in order to make maximum use of data collected in censuses and household surveys, was also emphasized.

582. The Commission recognized that the Institute was playing an increasingly important role in upgrading data processing skills in statistical offices through its programme to train statisticians in the use of microcomputer and associated statistical software. The Institute was urged to expand its role in that regard.

583. The Commission noted the substantial increase in the demand for the in-country courses being conducted by the Institute with UNDP support; those constituted an extremely cost-effective instrument. The Institute was urged to continue with that programme, giving due emphasis to the training of trainers programme.

584. The Commission noted the usefulness of the advanced courses, workshops and seminars conducted by the Institute with UNDP support for skill development of higher level personnel of statistical offices, and urged the Institute to continue with its workshops on managing national statistical services in the 1990s. The Commission also recognized the need for the courses/workshops to focus on problem-solving approaches through the use of statistics, with particular emphasis to be given to the use of statistics as an instrument for improving the management of public sector enterprises and for the monitoring of social and economic development programmes.

585. The Commission noted that the fourth five-year phase of SIAP would end in September 1990. The concerned parties had drafted a project proposal for the fifth phase incorporating the thrusts suggested by the Commission at its various sessions, including human resources development and management skills, public sector management and problem-solving approaches in the use of statistics. The Commission reiterated that the Institute should place special emphasis in its programmes on the statistical development of the least developed countries and the island developing countries of the Pacific, with particular stress on the use of TCDC modalities. The Commission urged all parties to work together expeditiously to ensure continuity in the functioning of the Institute in the fifth phase, scheduled to begin in October 1990.

586. The Commission gratefully acknowledged the continuing support, in cash and in kind, being provided to SIAP by members and associate members. As the prevailing exchange rate of the yen against the dollar had seriously affected the finances of the Institute and subsequently its staffing situation, recipient countries were urged to increase their cash contributions to SIAP so that its programmes would not be hampered. In that context, the Commission appreciated the allocation of $US 600,000 by UNDP for the fifth phase of the Institute, the very substantial increase in the pledge of Japan, the host Government, and the intentions of some recipient countries to increase their contributions.

587. The Commission expressed gratitude to the host country, Japan, for its continuing financial and in-kind contributions to the Institute, as well as the programme support it provided through the award of fellowships for training in statistics and data processing. The Commission also expressed gratitude to UNDP for its generous provision of over $US 2.6 million for the fourth phase of the project, which had

made it possible for the Institute to have a programme with a wide outreach to the region, to the United Kingdom, for the continuing provision of lecturers on a short-term, non-reimbursable basis; and to various international organizations for their co-operation and assistance in various programmes of the Institute. The offer of Australia to provide lecturers on a short-term basis from the Australian Bureau of Statistics was also noted with appreciation.

Asian and Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology

588. The Commission had before it document E/ESCAP/723, the report of the Asian and Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology, which contained details on the performance of the Centre with respect to the activities undertaken during the period under review. It expressed appreciation of the excellent performance of the Centre and the documentation prepared for the Commission's deliberations.

589. The Commission appreciated the activities undertaken by APCTT in the areas of technology utilization, the strengthening of technological information systems, and technology management capabilities under the UNDP-funded project. It noted with satisfaction that the Centre had organized national and regional workshops on different aspects of technology transfer, and technology expositions. It appreciated the efforts of APCTT to continue publication of *Tech Mart* and *Tech Monitor*, which were useful activities carried out for information dissemination and exchange.

590. The Commission noted with appreciation that APCTT, in spite of its difficult financial situation, had been able to carry out two major projects during the period under review: (i) strengthening the technology absorption capabilities of developing countries of the ESCAP region, and (ii) promotion of technology utilization. It especially thanked the Government of Japan for funding the project on strengthening technology absorption capabilities on an urgent basis, which had helped APCTT to continue functioning. It also thanked UNDP for its agreement to utilize the past savings of the project on technology utilization for activities in 1990, although that assistance was supposed to have ceased at the end of 1989.

591. The Commission noted that in the promotion of technology utilization activities, there was a need for APCTT to strengthen its networking with relevant organizations in the ESCAP region. In order to carry out those activities effectively, it was felt that adequate assistance at the national level from participating countries and donor assistance to APCTT at the regional level were of vital importance. In that context, the Commission stressed that the Centre should examine the possibility of establishing a technological data bank which would collect, store, analyse and disseminate technological information for the end-users, the industries.

592. The Commission noted with appreciation that the technology atlas, prepared by APCTT with assistance from the Government of Japan, had received wide acceptance and the demand for the publication was increasing. Government and private institutions were requesting the publication for use within and outside the region. The Commission noted with satisfaction that some of the countries of the ESCAP region had used the methodologies devised in the technology atlas for their technological needs assessment.

593. The Commission also took note of the recommendations of the Technical Advisory Committee and the Governing Board of APCTT, particularly those which were intended to make APCTT a viable institution. It endorsed the report and recommendations of the Governing Board. The Commission, while agreeing with the recommendations of the Governing Board, directed the Centre to evolve a short-term strategy for member countries to meet immediate institutional costs and devise a long-term mechanism for meeting institutional costs on a sustained basis.

594. The Commission realized the serious financial problems of APCTT in continuing its useful activities. It noted that the institutional costs should be the direct responsibility of the beneficiary countries through their contributions. In that respect, the Commission urged the member countries to increase their contributions substantially to make APCTT a viable institution.

595. The Commission noted with appreciation the intention of the Governments of Sri Lanka and Thailand to increase their contributions to the Centre.

596. The Commission commended APCTT on having devised a more practical future programme of work and urged UNDP, donor countries and other agencies to consider financing the new and practical project activities under that programme.

597. The Governing Board had suggested that an endowment fund of $US 5 million should be established, the interest from which could be used to meet the institutional costs of the Centre. It had requested the Commission to advise the Governing Board on that matter. The Commission took note of the suggestion and recommended that the possibility of the establishment of the endowment fund should be explored and that the necessary action should be initiated by the Executive Secretary and reported to the Commission at a later date.

598. The Commission welcomed the foundation-stone laying ceremony held on 24 May 1990 for the construction of a new building for the permanent headquarters of APCTT in New Delhi, and expressed confidence that the host country, India, would be able to complete the construction within 15-18 months. It expressed gratitude to the Government of India for its commitment. Furthermore, the Commission noted with satisfaction that the host country agreement between the Government of India and the United Nations relating to the Centre was being finalized and was expected to be concluded in the near future.

599. The Commission noted with appreciation the support of the Government of the Republic of Korea and UNIDO in providing expert services to APCTT. It also welcomed the offer of an expert on non-reimbursable loan from the USSR, who would arrive at the Centre in the near future. The Commission felt that the provision of such experts to APCTT should be welcomed, since the Centre could

absorb three to six Professional staff without extra local costs, and therefore urged member countries to provide experts on either a non-reimbursable loan or funds-in-trust basis.

600. The Commission noted with satisfaction the intention of UNDP to consider the funding of "free standing" projects on technology, and urged it to provide such funding as soon as possible.

601. The Commission expressed appreciation to all donor countries, UNDP and the host country, India, of their extremely valuable support in both cash and kind for the operation of APCTT during the past year.

602. The Commission elected the Governing Board of APCTT, consisting of the host country, India, and the following countries for the three-year period ending at the time of the forty-ninth session of the Commission, in 1993: Bangladesh, China, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Japan, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Thailand, USSR and Viet Nam.

Regional Energy Development Programme

603. The Commission endorsed document E/ESCAP/724, which had been presented to it for consideration and updated during its introduction by the Senior Co-ordinator of REDP. It noted with satisfaction statements by delegations of the REDP participating countries on the useful and positive impact of the activities of phase III (1987-1989) of the programme in enhancing their capability for the formulation of policies, planning and managing their energy sectors. The representatives of China, India, Malaysia and the Republic of Korea acknowledged that their countries had benefited from their involvement in and contribution to phase III studies on sectoral energy demand. The representative of the Philippines informed the Commission about the impact of activities of phase III, in particular those of the subprogramme on national energy planning, on the development of energy planning activities of its Office of Energy Affairs, and of the phase III training programmes on electricity transmission and distribution losses in helping the Manila Electric Company reduce losses from 20 to 14.8 per cent. The representatives of India and Malaysia cited the importance and usefulness of their involvement in the phase III activity on electricity conservation in the commercial subsector. The representative of Pakistan commended the successful implementation of phase III of the project. The representative of Indonesia expressed satisfaction with the overall performance of phase III. Indonesia had benefited from project activities. The representative of Thailand said that REDP not only reflected the needs of developing countries within the Asian region but also fostered regional co-operation among its participating countries. The representatives of Australia and France, donor co-operating countries of phase III, announced continued and increased financial support, and support in the form of expertise for activities in sectoral energy demand studies and coal development and utilization, respectively, in phase IV (1990-1991). The representative of UNDP thanked representatives from the participating countries for their positive comments on UNDP involvement and support for REDP. The Commission commended the important role ESCAP and its associated executing agencies and institutions had played in assisting developing countries of the Asian region in the development and management of the energy sector within the approach and implementation framework of REDP.

604. The Commission noted that the special session of the Tripartite Review Conference on REDP, held on 1 December 1989 and attended by representatives of 19 of the 22 countries participating in the Programme, had commented on and endorsed the six recommendations of the 1989 UNDP/ESCAP evaluation mission on REDP as reported in document E/ESCAP/724. The representative of China stressed the significance of those six recommendations for strengthening the execution and design of REDP and promoting the results of the project, as well as maintaining the activities in the period beyond phase IV (1990-1991). The representative of UNDP was pleased to note the general agreement among member countries, ESCAP and UNDP on the recommendations made by the evaluation mission. The Commission endorsed the six recommendations in full and urged all concerned in the tripartite arrangement of REDP to use them as constructive guidance for enhancing intercountry co-operation in the energy sector in the Asian region.

605. The Commission reviewed progress in the establishment of subject-specific regional technical co-operation among developing countries (TCDC) working groups on energy planning, coal development, natural gas development, rural energy planning and development, energy conservation and electric power development, which the Commission had endorsed at its forty-fifth session in March-April 1989. The Commission recalled that the exchange of letters between ESCAP and the Governments of Australia and Indonesia pertaining to provision of leadership and hosting the secretariats of the working groups on coal development and natural gas development, respectively, by those Governments, had been concluded in 1989. It also noted that further progress had been achieved with the conclusion early in January 1990 of the exchange of letters between ESCAP and the Government of China pertaining to its provision of leadership and hosting the secretariat of the regional TCDC working group on rural energy planning and development. The Commission noted further the statement by the representative of India expressing his Government's willingness to lead, co-ordinate and host the secretariat of the regional TCDC working group on energy conservation for a period of two years coinciding with phase IV of REDP. The understanding between India and ESCAP had been signed and was being handed over to the Executive Secretary of ESCAP. The Commission also noted the readiness of the Government of Malaysia to provide leadership and host facilities for the regional TCDC working group on electric power development. It also noted that the REDP office, with substantive backstopping from the Energy Resources Section of the Natural Resources Division of ESCAP, functioned as the secretariat of the regional TCDC working group on energy planning. The representative of UNDP conveyed appreciation to the Governments of Australia, China, India and Indonesia for actively participating in the endeavour of continuing the activities of REDP by hosting the first four working groups. The Commission noted with satisfaction that all the working groups had been established and urged

all concerned to contribute actively to their operationalization.

606. The Commission was informed and noted that the draft work plan for the phase IV programme of the project, which consisted of six subprogrammes bearing the same names as the working groups, i.e. P: Energy Planning, C: Coal Development, NG: Natural Gas Development, R: Rural Energy Planning and Development, EC: Energy Conservation, and EP: Electric Power Development, had been finalized by the project office during the period January-May 1990 in accordance with the guidance received at the special session of the Tripartite Review Conference held on 1 December 1989. It noted that in the finalization of the phase IV programme workplan, full cognizance had been taken of the following guiding principles: (i) to design the phase IV subprogramme workplans to support promotion and operationalization of the six regional TCDC working groups; (ii) to allocate available UNDP funding for phase IV judiciously among the six new subprogrammes according to member countries' priority indications on each subprogramme made at the special session of the Tripartite Review Conference, and to allocate that funding primarily to support external cost components of activities in line with the evolvement of the project towards the TCDC context; (iii) to design each project activity to accommodate, as far as feasible, member countries' interests and priority indications on each activity, as expressed during the special session of the Tripartite Review Conference, through preparation of detailed activity and budget plans; and (iv) to mobilize increased cost-sharing and co-financing support for activity implementation from the participating countries themselves and co-operative donor countries/agencies. The Commission also noted that in the period January-May 1990 extensive consultations had been undertaken by the Senior Co-ordinator of REDP with the relevant authorities of the Governments of Australia, China, France, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Pakistan, the Republic of Korea and Thailand and the Liquid Fuels Management Group of New Zealand, with a view to enhancing cost-sharing and co-financing arrangements in meeting required resource inputs for the implementation of subprogramme activities. In that context, the Commission further noted the Government of Australia's committed contribution of $A 500,196 for the phase IV subprogramme on coal development; the Government of France's committed contribution of FF 300,000 and 6 work-months of professional expertise in 1990, and probable similar support in 1991, for the activity on sectoral energy demand studies under the subprogramme on energy planning; the Government of Malaysia's in-kind contribution equivalent to $M 125,000 and cash contribution of $M 55,000 for hosting three activities of the subprogramme on electric power development; the Government of China's in-kind contribution equivalent to ¥RMB 45,000, cash contribution of ¥RMB 45,000 and 2 work-months of professional time for the executive seminar and study tour under the subprogramme on rural energy planning and development; and the Government of the Republic of Korea's contribution of four resource persons and consulting services to REDP participating countries in the area of electricity transmission and distribution loss reduction under the subprogramme on electric power development. The representative of Indonesia informed the Commission that the secretariat of the working group on natural gas development was seeking supplementary funding from his Government for implementation of activities under the subprogramme on natural gas development. The representative of Thailand informed the Commission that his Government was considering providing host facilities for the executive seminar and study tour under the subprogramme on rural energy planning and development, and the representative of India said that his Government was considering contributing local funding for certain activities of the subprogramme on energy conservation. The Commission noted that approved UNDP funding for phase IV was $US 1,825,960 and that to be able to implement a minimum programme for phase IV as directed by the Tripartite Review Conference at its special session, an additional amount of $US 352,000 would be required. The Commission was informed that in May 1990 a request for additional funding of $US 280,000 to cover part of the shortfall had been submitted for the consideration of UNDP, and that initial discussions to mobilize the remaining $US 72,000 had been undertaken with the relevant authorities of the Government of France and the World Bank. The Commission was also informed that all subprogrammes for phase IV had been submitted at the end of May 1990 to REDP participating countries, together with requests to designate relevant national agencies/institutions as members of the working groups, should the countries have an interest in joining any of them. The Commission expressed appreciation of the positive response of all concerned in the tripartite arrangement of REDP to efforts already undertaken to increase cost-sharing and co-financing of resource inputs to implement phase IV subprogramme activities.

607. The Commission noted with satisfaction that activities under phase IV subprogrammes on energy planning and coal development had been launched as scheduled, and that preparations for the implementation of other subprogrammes were under way. It noted further that the implementation of the REDP special subprogramme on new and renewable sources of energy for China, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and Mongolia, approved in April 1989 by UNDP, had been progressing according to schedule in a co-operative spirit of TCDC. The Commission was informed that the secretariat of the three-country network on new and renewable sources of energy associated with that subprogramme, located at Liaoning Province in China, had been strengthened with the deployment of a United Nations Volunteer since March 1990.

608. The Commission was informed that the 1989 UNDP/ESCAP evaluation mission on REDP had confirmed the seriousness of the call made by many member countries at the Tripartite Review Conferences of REDP, and at sessions of the Commission during the past few years, for continued UNDP support for intercountry assistance programmes in the field of energy beyond 1991, i.e. the end of the current UNDP programming cycle (1987-1991). The Commission was invited to consider and deliberate on the continuity of UNDP support for the ESCAP intercountry energy assistance programme beyond 1991. In that regard, the representative of India stressed that the amount of such assistance should not be smaller than the current level of UNDP funding

and, if possible, it should be larger than that for the current cycle (1987-1991). He stated further that the institutional arrangement made by ESCAP to support programme implementation should remain with the project co-ordination centre, totally supported by UNDP as at present. The representative of China called on UNDP and other international organizations to provide more financial assistance beyond 1991 to support activities of the working groups, which were necessary for continued exchange and co-operation in the region. Many delegations reiterated the view already expressed on various occasions that although the primary responsibility to conduct economic and technical co-operation among developing countries lay with the developing countries themselves, the active role of United Nations bodies, UNDP and co-operating donor countries was not only recognized but very much welcomed. In view of the contributions already being made to REDP by the participating developing countries themselves, many member countries called on UNDP, other international funding agencies and donor countries for continuation and enhancement of technical and financial support through REDP until the working groups were self-sustaining and effective, to enable member countries to meet the energy challenges of the 1990s. In that respect, the representative of UNDP informed the Commission that the Governing Council of UNDP was at that time meeting in Geneva and would be considering a series of proposals put forward for reorienting the identification, formulation and appraisal of regional programmes for the next UNDP programming cycle, 1992-1996. He also informed the Commission that in its resolution 44/211 the General Assembly had urged UNDP to follow a programme-oriented rather than a project-oriented approach for the provision of technical assistance to participating Governments and to promote national execution as a preferred modality. In principle, UNDP would consider continuing assistance in the field of energy development in the region. However, pending the results of the UNDP Governing Council session, the form and the contents of the assistance were not yet known. The Commission noted that many countries had called for UNDP and donor countries to consider continuing support of REDP and the working groups' programmes beyond 1991, so that more time could be available to encourage the REDP participating countries to enhance their support and provide institutional support for intercountry co-operation in energy in the region, and to ensure that the results achieved during two cycles of implementation were not undermined.

609. The Commission expressed gratitude to UNDP for its support of the programme, and to the Governments of Australia and France for providing support to the activities on coal development and sectoral energy demand studies, respectively. The Commission commended the REDP participating countries on their ongoing efforts to achieve self-reliance in co-operative initiatives for energy development among themselves and interested co-operating donor countries beyond the current cycle (1987-1991), within the framework of the ESCAP approach in enhancing regional co-operation.

Pacific Energy Development Programme

610. The Project Manager introduced document E/ESCAP/725, the report on PEDP activities during 1989, and summarized activities carried out during 1990. In addition to numerous assessments, workshops and training activities covering national energy planning, petroleum supply and pricing, power sector planning and renewable sources of energy in 15 countries, the project was undertaking a major new activity, "Pacific regional energy assessment" in co-operation with the World Bank and the Asian Development Bank. That would provide comprehensive national energy assessments for 12 countries and the overall Pacific subregion.

611. During 1989, a joint evaluation mission had assessed the PEDP and Forum Secretariat energy activities. The mission had concluded that PEDP had consistently provided high-quality services covering a wide range of areas which the countries had themselves identified as high priority and had recommended: (a) location of PEDP and Forum energy activities in a single joint office; (b) the establishment of a regional energy agency under the auspices of the Forum; and (c) continued UNDP support for Pacific subregional energy activities through ESCAP after 1991, if so requested by Governments. Recommendation (a) had been carried out, recommendation (b) would be considered by prime ministers at the meeting of the South Pacific Forum to be held in July 1990, and recommendation (c) was under consideration.

612. Delegations thanked PEDP for its services, supported the recommendations made at the 1989 mid-term review, and also thanked various donors, including Japan, UNDP, the World Bank, the Asian Development Bank and the Australian International Development Assistance Bureau (AIDAB) for past and forthcoming support. One delegation called for the upgrading of PEDP to an autonomous intergovernmental agency with a strong regional training role.

Regional Network for Agricultural Machinery

613. The Commission had before it the report on the Regional Network for Agricultural Machinery (E/ESCAP/726). The report briefly presented the achievements of the project since its inception and highlighted the progress of activities undertaken since the forty-fifth session of the Commission.

614. The Commission acknowledged with satisfaction the contributions of RNAM in assisting the national institutes to develop appropriate agricultural machines through the exchange of commercial machines among themselves, and the dissemination of information on the latest developments in agricultural mechanization technologies throughout the Asian and Pacific region and elsewhere in the world. The Commission also lauded the efforts of the project in the area of human resources development through two workshops and a training course held, respectively, in the Republic of Korea, Indonesia and Pakistan.

615. The Commission urged the participating countries to strengthen their network system to carry out mechanization activities in a more integrated and effective manner. There was a need for better co-ordination among the national institutes, extension agencies, financial institutions, manufacturers and the

end users, the farmers. Special emphasis should be given to improving the technologies of small and medium-scale manufacturers.

616. The Commission reiterated that the work of the RNAM project should continue beyond 1991 and endorsed the recommendation of the RNAM Governing Body that the following areas should be emphasized after 1991:

(a) Policies and strategies for appropriate agricultural mechanization;

(b) Design and development of appropriate machines through frequent exchange of information and hardware;

(c) Manufacture of agricultural machines through the sharing of technologies and joint venture/licensing arrangements;

(d) Extension of machines (market expansion) through extensive demonstrations in farmers' fields;

(e) Integration of women in the field of agricultural mechanization technologies.

617. The Commission directed that the project should ensure greater involvement of women in its activities, such as meetings, workshops, training courses and study tours. It also urged the national institutes to keep women in mind as end users when developing agricultural machinery.

618. The proposal to transfer the RNAM Regional Office to ESCAP headquarters after 1991, to alleviate the severe constraints on institutional support cost funding, was endorsed as the most cost-effective alternative. In that regard, the Commission requested the participating Governments to increase their cash contributions towards meeting the institutional costs to make the project self-sustaining on a long-term basis.

619. The Commission requested UNDP to reconsider its decision to terminate the funding of programme support activities after 1991. It called upon other donor agencies and countries to provide funding support for specific regional activities of the project in the next phase, 1992-1996. For that purpose, it directed the secretariat to establish a more suitable mechanism for generating funds for the project.

620. The participation of China was welcomed and endorsed by the Commission and it was hoped that it would usher the project into a new era of mutual co-operation and benefit for the participating countries.

621. The Commission acknowledged with thanks the financial support thus far given to the project by UNDP and the Governments of Australia and Japan. It expressed appreciation of the assistance of UNIDO, in the form of provision of an associate expert, and thanked the Government of the Philippines for providing suitable host facilities.

Asian and Pacific Development Centre

622. The Commission had before it the report of the Asian and Pacific Development Centre transmitted in a note by the secretariat (E/ESCAP/727).

623. The new Director of APDC observed that while the Centre had grown institutionally and diversified its programmes, it required bold new initiatives to ensure continued relevance, legitimacy and visibility as an intergovernmental organization. The Centre was therefore looking forward to continued support from member Governments to make the necessary adjustment.

624. He stated that the Centre's work programme had received enthusiastic support from both governmental and non-governmental agencies at the national level, as well as donor agencies, and that the recent impact evaluation mission fielded by UNDP had found the Centre's programmes to be both relevant and useful to member countries. He stressed, however, that there was an urgent need to diversify the sources of programme funding and establish more durable linkages with large donor agencies. Simultaneously, strong institutional support from member Governments was needed. He contended that in the short run the Centre's institutional viability had to be ensured, first, by expanding the scope of its membership, second, by substantially reducing the projected budget deficit through increased institutional funding by member Governments, as well as from other sources of revenue, and third, by developing appropriate staffing policies to attract and retain Professional and General Service staff of high quality. With the final approval of the 1990-1992 APDC work programme in September 1989, he looked forward to further consolidation of the Centre's achievements, with the continued strong support of member Governments, collaborating institutes and donor agencies.

625. Several delegations commented on the development of the Centre and expressed satisfaction with its achievements during 1989. There was consensus that the Centre's programmes were beneficial to member Governments and that the Centre should focus on projects which directly addressed the needs of developing countries of the region. One delegation urged the Centre to increase its attention to the provision of consultancy services to the least developed countries, while another suggested that much more focus should be given to follow-up activities on the completion of specific research projects.

626. The Commission urged that the level of collaboration between APDC and ESCAP be further increased.

627. The delegation of the Republic of Korea pledged an increase in its annual contribution to the Centre from $US 45,000 to $US 80,000 in 1990. The representative of Japan pledged a contribution of $US 330,000 for the 1990 fiscal year.

Committee for Co-ordination of Joint Prospecting for Mineral Resources in Asian Offshore Areas

628. The Commission had before it the report of the Committee transmitted under a note by the secretariat (E/ESCAP/728).

629. It was informed that the Professional and support staff of the CCOP Technical Secretariat had been increased substantially during the past year to enable the work programme to be carried out more

effectively. Several institutional arrangements had been implemented to improve further the efficiency of the Secretariat's functioning, regular consultations had commenced with the ESCAP Natural Resources Division, and the financial reserve had increased. As a result, marked progress had been made by CCOP during the previous year, in both its institutional foundation and project implementation.

630. Programme support had continued to be provided by co-operating countries, and by UNDP and other organizations. That had enabled implementation of many important projects concerning hydrocarbons, offshore mineral surveys, Quaternary geology, aeromagnetic map compilation, studies of marine environment and safety, coastal zone management and East Asian tectonics and resources. Training had continued to be an important and integral part of all CCOP work and several publications on the results of investigations in the region had been issued during the year.

631. The Commission was informed that during the first half of 1990 a new system of work plan and budget presentation had been instituted; the Interim Programme Development Committee had been established and had met twice to formulate the CCOP long-term corporate plan and a mechanism to develop a funding base for CCOP in line with that plan. The Commission was further informed that a study was under way to assess the manpower resources and needs of the member countries and the feasibility of establishing a network of CCOP training and research centres.

632. With regard to headquarters facilities, the Commission noted that conclusion of an interim headquarters agreement with the Royal Thai Government was anticipated in the very near future.

633. The Commission noted the appreciation expressed by the member and co-operating countries of the work undertaken by the CCOP Secretariat. It also noted that the member countries had benefited greatly from CCOP work on offshore hydrocarbons and mineral resources, as well as from the manpower training programme. It further noted the request by the member countries that the Secretariat's activities in those fields should be continued and strengthened and that the regional expert programme should be expanded.

634. It was informed that some co-operating countries had offered support and assistance in a number of activities relevant to the CCOP work programme.

635. The Committee expressed appreciation to UNDP, ESCAP and the co-operating countries and organizations of their support. There was general appreciation of the need for the continued support of UNDP during the programming cycle 1992-1996.

Interim Committee for Co-ordination of Investigations of the Lower Mekong Basin

636. The Commission had before it the annual report of the Interim Committee for Co-ordination of Investigations of the Lower Mekong Basin, 1989 (E/ESCAP/729), which was presented for information by its Chairman for 1990, assisted by the Executive Agent. In bringing out the salient points of the annual report, the Chairman mentioned that 1989 had been an active year during which significant steps had been taken by the Committee to enhance its capacity to harness the largely untapped resources of the lower Mekong basin for the benefit of its inhabitants. He referred to progress achieved in various sectors of the work programme, including basin planning, the information system, hydrology and meteorology, water control for agriculture, flood control, the environment, energy generation and transport and navigation. As a result of the progress made, a number of activities and projects had been successfully concluded in 1989.

637. In his statement, the Chairman indicated that in 1989 financial commitments made by the international community for projects sponsored by the Committee and institutional support had amounted to approximately $US 39 million, and expressed the Committee's gratitude to the co-operating countries and agencies for their continuing support of its work.

638. In statements made by the representatives, strong support was given to the unique role that the Committee continued to play in promoting regional co-operation in the integrated development of the lower Mekong basin, and satisfaction was expressed at the successful implementation of many important projects. The Committee and the Executive Agent were complimented on the efficient operation of the Mekong Secretariat, as well as on the clear presentation of the annual report. The continuing assistance pledged by several representatives was much appreciated. The riparian countries themselves expressed to the co-operating countries and international agencies their warm appreciation of the assistance provided.

Typhoon Committee

639. The Commission had before it the report of the Typhoon Committee, transmitted with a note by the secretariat (E/ESCAP/730). It noted with satisfaction the considerable progress made in the implementation of activities of the Typhoon Committee under the meteorological, hydrological, disaster prevention and preparedness, training and research components of its programme, with the active participation of the Committee members.

640. It was pleased to note that ESCAP had provided the members with various substantive services, such as the preparation of a manual and guidelines for comprehensive flood loss prevention and management. It noted the suggestion by the delegations of several member countries that ESCAP should continue and increase such support of the activities of the Typhoon Committee. It also noted that several delegations had requested assistance for their countries in the field of meteorology from concerned United Nations agencies.

641. It took note with appreciation of the decision by the Republic of Korea to host the twenty-third session of the Typhoon Committee at Seoul in November 1990.

642. The Commission also noted with satisfaction that the members of the Committee intended to continue their active participation in the Committee's

activities, in particular in the special typhoon experiment to study the formation, intensification and movement of tropical cyclones, which it was planned to carry out during the 1990 typhoon season.

643. It expressed appreciation of the various types of financial and in-kind support provided by the members for the activities of the Typhoon Committee, such as the provision of host facilities and support staff and experts to the Typhoon Committee Secretariat and contributions to the Typhoon Committee Trust Fund. Technical co-operation and information exchange among members were also noted with satisfaction. The Commission commended UNDP on its considerable financial support for the activities of the Typhoon Committee and expressed the strong hope that it would continue that support. The Commission also commended the co-operation between WMO and ESCAP in support of the work of the Typhoon Committee.

Programme planning

Draft medium-term plan, 1992-1997

644. The Commission had before it documents E/ESCAP/731 and Corr. 1 and ESCAP(XLVI)/CRP.1.

645. It expressed satisfaction that the draft medium-term plan contained in E/ESCAP/731 and Corr.1 had complied with the revised structure of the subprogrammes as approved by the Commission at its forty-fifth session. It recommended that the title of subprogramme 12 should be changed to "Special programmes for the least developed, land-locked and island developing countries".

646. It commended the secretariat on the preparation of a comprehensive plan at the programme and subprogramme levels, and confirmed that it provided a clear and coherent policy framework to guide the work of the Commission in the plan period. The plan was considered to be fully consistent with the national planning strategies of countries in the region in dealing with prevalent and emerging development challenges in the current decade.

647. The Commission endorsed the substantive text of the medium-term plan as contained in document E/ESCAP/731 and Corr.1. Noting that a revised text as edited by the United Nations Secretariat at Headquarters had been submitted for the consideration of the global Committee for Planning and Co-ordination (CPC), it requested the ESCAP secretariat to ensure that the substantive thrust of the plan as contained in document E/ESCAP/731 was not lost or altered in the revised text submitted to CPC.

648. The Commission noted with appreciation the contribution of the Advisory Committee of Permanent Representatives and Other Representatives Designated by Members of the Commission (ACPR) and the legislative committees in the formulation of the plan.

649. With respect to priority setting, the Commission noted that because of the diversity in the levels of and policies on economic, social and technological development among the members and associate members of the Commission, their priorities in different sectors and the kind of assistance they required varied markedly. Accordingly, priority setting at the level of subprogrammes, many of which were designed on a sectoral basis, was not appropriate for the programme of ESCAP. The strength of the work of the Commission was based upon its multidisciplinary capabilities to plan and engage in complex intersectoral issues. Recognizing fully the need for prioritization in its work, the Commission was of the view that programmes and projects which were addressed to those specific issues whose solution required or benefited from regional or intercountry co-operation, particularly economic and technical co-operation among the developing countries of the region, should be given priority.

650. The Commission was informed that, in compliance with the programme planning rules and procedures of the United Nations - which required that priority setting in the medium-term plan be made through selection of subprogrammes - subprogrammes 5, on human resources development, and 12, on special programmes for the least developed and island developing countries, had been proposed as high priority, on a provisional basis, in the revised text presented to CPC at its session in May 1990. The preliminary selection of the two priorities would be subject to the deliberations and decisions of the Commission at the current session. While those two subprogrammes were important because of their multidisciplinary character, the Commission believed that it was the only competent body to determine priorities in the work of the Commission that fully reflected the needs and requirements of its members and associate members. After intensive discussion, the Commission selected the following nine subprogrammes to be given priority. That decision would be further reviewed at the forty-eighth session in conjunction with the revision to the medium-term plan:

Agriculture and rural development

Environment

Human resources development

Industrial and technological development

International trade and development finance

Population

Social development

Special programmes for the least developed, land-locked and island developing countries

Transport and communications

651. In the light of the above, the Commission requested the Executive Secretary to submit the following text on the subprogramme-level priority setting to CPC for consideration at its resumed session in September 1990:

"The Commission's priorities are placed on programmes and projects addressed to those specific issues whose solutions require or benefit from regional and intercountry co-operation. Interdisciplinary approaches to complex development issues, with the full utilization of the multidisciplinary capabilities of

the Commission, are specifically given priority. Accordingly, selection of subprogrammes, many of which are designed on a sectoral basis, does not adequately facilitate prioritization in the Commission's medium-term plan. However, in compliance with the programme planning rules and procedures of the United Nations, the Commission proposes that subprogrammes 1, 4, 5, 7, 8, 10, 11, 12 and 15 be designated high priority."

Proposed programme changes for 1990-1991

652. The Commission had before it documents E/ESCAP/732 and Corr.1-3, E/ESCAP/733, E/ESCAP/734 and Corr.1, E/ESCAP/745 and ESCAP(XLVI)/INF. 1.

653. The Commission endorsed the programme change proposals for 1990-1991 as contained in document E/ESCAP/732 and Corr.1-3, subject to the following observations and amendments:

(a) With regard to the programme on international trade and development finance, the Commission noted the interest of one delegation in the preparation of a publication entitled "Handbook on trading with the USSR and the East European countries".

(b) With respect to the programme on natural resources, the Commission decided to retain outputs 2.5(i)(a) and (b) on studies on prospects for the application of solar and wind energy, respectively, in water pumping in the region, and directed the secretariat to seek extrabudgetary resources for their implementation.

(c) With regard to the programme on Transport I (transport, communications and tourism), the Commission noted with concern that a number of technical publications, particularly in the railway sector, were proposed for deletion because of resource constraints. It was, however, informed that the deletion did not mean any change in priority and that the secretariat would continue to undertake work related to the railway and highway sectors, the results of which would be submitted to relevant intergovernmental meetings or the Committee on Shipping, Transport and Communications.

(d) With respect to the programme on Transport II (shipping, ports and inland waterways), the Commission recommended the addition of a technical publication on guidelines for maritime industry labour legislation as output 1.2(i)(c), which would be funded by UNDP.

654. The programme of work and priorities, 1990-1991, as revised to incorporate the approved changes, appears in annex I to the present report.

655. The Commission expressed appreciation of the useful information contained in the new comprehensive report on the implementation of the programme of work, 1988-1989 (E/ESCAP/734). One delegation suggested that that report should include information on the use of regular and extrabudgetary resources at the subprogramme level.

656. The Commission approved the tentative calendar of meetings, 1990/91 as presented in document E/ESCAP/733, noting that further changes would be made during the biennium, particularly for those meetings which were subject to the availability of extrabudgetary funds.

657. The Commission unanimously adopted resolution 46/3 on priorities and operation of ESCAP.

Economic and technical co-operation among developing countries

658. The Commission had before it document E/ESCAP/735 on economic and technical co-operation among developing countries. In introducing the subject, the Deputy Executive Secretary requested the attention and guidance of the Commission on five possible areas from which specific ECDC and TCDC activities could be developed and implemented by members concerned: (i) *ad hoc* intergovernmental meeting of TCDC and ECDC national focal points and TCDC/ECDC programming among small and medium- sized manufacturers of electrical and electronic products, Seoul, November 1990; (ii) operational TCDC as a follow-up to the promotional activities of the secretariat; (iii) a TCDC-ECDC approach for the least developed, land-locked and island developing countries; (iv) co-operative efforts in natural disaster reduction; and (v) TCDC in information networking: the Asia-Pacific POPIN experience.

659. The Commission commended the continuing efforts of the secretariat in its catalytic role to promote and support operational TCDC activities which were of interest to member countries at bilateral and multilateral levels. It noted with appreciation the continuing and vigorous commitment of developing countries of the ESCAP region to pursue actively TCDC and ECDC modalities to complement each other in resources and expertise in their socio-economic development efforts. It further noted that TCDC and ECDC activities based on mutual benefit, equality, practicality and common development should be an integral part of the self-reliance of the developing countries of the region. The developing countries requested the secretariat to expand its support to those useful activities compatible with the needs of the countries concerned. The Commission took note of the suggestion that co-operation among developing countries of the region in the fields of trade, finance, technology, industry, entrepreneurial development and agriculture should be given priority.

660. The Commission reiterated that the planning, formulation, financing and implementation of co-operative development activities among developing countries should remain the responsibility of the developing countries themselves. The role of ESCAP and other United Nations agencies and international organizations should be catalytic and advisory in nature.

661. The Commission thanked the Governments of China, the Netherlands, Norway and the Republic of Korea for their continuing contributions to the ESCAP TCDC supplementary fund, which enabled the secretariat to expand its catalytic support to the increasing number of TCDC proposals from members and associate members. In order to expand those useful activities further, the Commission urged all

members and associate members and international organizations to participate in and contribute to ESCAP-supported TCDC activities, technically as well as financially.

662. The Commission reiterated its concern that a large number of ESCAP-funded promotional TCDC activities had not resulted in more operational TCDC activities. In that connection, it suggested that the secretariat, with the active participation of the members and associate members, should prepare a comprehensive list of specific needs to be matched with the existing capabilities of countries of the region to generate more operational TCDC and ECDC activities. It further suggested that the follow-up of the implemented TCDC-ECDC activities should be monitored closely by the members and associate members concerned so as to ensure that the acquired expertise and technology were utilized effectively in their relevant socio-economic development programmes.

663. The Commission took note of the Dhaka Declaration adopted by the Ministerial Meeting of the Least Developed Countries, held in February 1990, reaffirming the importance of the TCDC-ECDC approach for the least developed, land-locked and island developing countries in the Asian and Pacific region. It supported the secretariat proposal to launch subregional and regional activities on TCDC and ECDC for the least developed, land-locked and island developing countries in the Asian and Pacific region. It requested the secretariat to take the necessary action for that purpose.

664. In view of the financial constraints faced by most, if not all, least developed, land-locked and island developing countries, it was proposed that provision could be made for in-country costs of TCDC activities to be met from the ESCAP TCDC supplementary fund or from other sources, particularly when such activities were to be implemented in least developed countries. It was also proposed that provision could be made to accommodate long-term TCDC fellowships for participants from the least developed, land-locked and island developing countries.

665. The Commission unanimously adopted resolution 46/8 on technical and economic co-operation among developing countries for the least developed, land-locked and island developing countries.

666. The Commission welcomed, with appreciation, the multi-sectoral TCDC programming meeting to be hosted by the Government of Indonesia, with technical and financial assistance from the UNDP Special Unit for TCDC, at Jakarta from 30 July to 3 August 1990. It also welcomed the organization of an *ad hoc* intergovernmental meeting of ECDC-TCDC national focal points and of the meeting on TCDC programming among small and medium-sized manufacturers of electrical and electronic products, to be hosted by the Government of the Republic of Korea at Seoul from 20 to 24 November 1990. The Commission thanked the UNDP Special Unit for TCDC for providing technical and financial assistance to enable developing countries of the ESCAP region to participate in those two important TCDC activities. It urged all developing members, particularly the least developed, land-locked and island developing countries, to make full use of that opportunity to develop technical and business co-operation in their fields of interest, including the manufacture of electrical and electronic products. It also urged the representatives of the national TCDC/ECDC focal points to participate actively in the meeting at Seoul, and to formulate co-operative programmes among themselves so as to improve effectiveness.

667. The Commission noted the efforts made by some developing countries to increase and strengthen their bilateral co-operation in the field of TCDC. In that regard, it noted with satisfaction that following the successful completion of an intergovernmental TCDC programme exercise held in Pakistan during September 1988, with the support of UNDP, as many as 146 project proposals had been concluded among 20 participating countries and Pakistan. That would result in the provision of the services of 119 experts and 105 training facilities in Pakistan, while Pakistan would be able to avail itself of the services of 65 experts and 55 training facilities from the other developing countries. The Commission noted with appreciation that despite severe financial constraints, the overall contribution of Pakistan to the TCDC programmes under various programmes currently exceeded $US 10 million per annum.

668. The Commission took note of the usefulness of business sector participation in TCDC and ECDC activities. For that purpose, it urged member Governments concerned to encourage and assist business organizations in making the necessary preparations for their participation in the meeting on TCDC programming in the manufacture of electrical and electronic products at Seoul in November 1990. In that connection, the host Government, jointly with the secretariat and UNDP, could publicize the benefits and usefulness to those business organizations of their participating in TCDC and ECDC activities.

669. The Commission reiterated that members and associate members should make fuller use of the large number of ESCAP promotional TCDC activities and develop them into specific TCDC/ECDC operational activities of interest to them, at bilateral and multilateral levels. It noted that the catalytic role of the secretariat in expanding those activities should be undertaken within its existing resources and that such expansion should be in complementarity with the projects funded under the regular budget. It further emphasized that the principles of universality and transparency of United Nations-supported activities should be observed closely by the secretariat.

670. The Commission recognized fully the damaging effects of natural disasters in the Asian and Pacific region, not only on human lives and property but also on the long-term socio-economic development of the countries concerned. It agreed that in addition to disaster relief measures, serious attention should be given by members and associate members to planning, prevention and mitigation activities.

671. The Commission noted that in undertaking preventive measures, many developing countries in the region were facing several constraints, such as lack of institutional infrastructure, lack of qualified and trained manpower, and lack of equipment and financial resources. It therefore suggested that co-operative efforts and sharing of expertise among members and

associate members of ESCAP should be undertaken. For that purpose the secretariat, through its task force established earlier by the Executive Secretary, should take the necessary steps to support such efforts.

672. The Commission noted with satisfaction the valuable contributions of the Asia-Pacific Population Information Network (Asia-Pacific POPIN) in promoting and supporting the exchange of expertise and population information among countries in the region. It also expressed appreciation of the financial and technical support of UNFPA and the ESCAP TCDC supplementary fund for the activities of the Network.

673. The Commission supported the secretariat's proposal to organize, in collaboration with UNFPA and the UNDP Special Unit for TCDC and other organizations concerned, a TCDC programme in population information networking. That proposal could be considered in depth during the next consultative workshop of Asia-Pacific POPIN in October/November 1990.

674. The representative of UNDP informed the Commission that in response to the recommendation made by the High-level Committee on the Review of Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries, UNDP in 1983 had allocated funds from its special programme resources to promote action-oriented TCDC activities. Those funds had provided catalytic financial support for 12 TCDC programmes in different countries which had generated over 2,000 bilateral TCDC projects among the participating countries. At the regional level, the priority of UNDP was to incorporate TCDC arrangements as a special feature in the projects which UNDP supported. At the country level, UNDP supported various projects to strengthen the capacity of countries to carry out their TCDC activities. In addition, UNDP assisted the countries concerned by matching their needs and capacity through the use of INRES-South, which was a computerized information referral service used to respond to requests for matching specific needs with the capacity of institutions in developing countries to provide training and expertise.

Special problems faced by the Pacific island countries: the Commission's activities in the Pacific

675. The Commission had before it document E/ESCAP/736 and Add.1. It commended the secretariat on having presented a very useful and comprehensive report on the special problems faced by the Pacific island countries and the Commission's activities in the Pacific.

676. The Commission was concerned at the unfavourable record of economic performance of most Pacific island countries during the 1980s. It took note of the variety of domestic and external constraints on development, including, in particular, severe physical barriers, natural disasters, a limited export base and less than favourable external trade environment, as well as grossly inadequate human resources and institutions. In that context, several delegations outlined their approaches towards development planning as a management tool to rationalize the allocation of scarce resources, and highlighted problems in the identification and implementation of development plans, policies and projects.

677. The Commission welcomed the secretariat technical assistance proposal to conduct one regional and three subregional training courses on macro-economic development planning and policy management under the subprogramme on special measures in favour of island developing countries. It was emphasized that project activities should lead to concrete and implementable policy recommendations, contribute to the training and enrichment of island human resources in the relevant areas, and be carried out in close collaboration with interested regional agencies and offices, including the Forum Secretariat, the South Pacific Commission and the University of the South Pacific.

678. The Commission took note of the statement by the secretariat on achievements in response to identified needs, and on the remaining and newly indicated areas for technical assistance jointly put forward by Pacific island country delegations during their informal consultations with the secretariat. The Commission was informed that the Government of Australia would provide funds for the recruitment of a statistical adviser at the ESCAP Pacific Operations Centre (EPOC), and for the implementation of a project on the economic performance and prospects of Pacific island countries. It took note of the financial support provided by the Government of Japan for two of the projects, which had been drawn up on the basis of the recommendations of the ESCAP/Japan fact-finding mission to the South Pacific the previous year. Other areas of need for technical assistance identified by a number of Pacific island delegations included development planning, tourism, statistical data processing and information systems, including computerization, environmental concerns, especially the greenhouse effect on island ecosystems and the rising sea level, and training in fisheries management.

679. The Commission emphasized the need to mobilize sufficient resources for the implementation of current and proposed activities under the subprogramme. In that connection, many delegations urged donor Governments to consider providing an expert on a non-reimbursable loan basis. They also requested the Executive Secretary to look into the possibility of the internal redeployment of resources in support of the subprogramme, and of recruitment of more Pacific island nationals to work within the secretariat.

680. The Commission expressed great satisfaction at the continued successful implementation of its resolution 269 (XLIV) of 20 April 1988 on the Commission's activities in the Pacific, which had facilitated the participation of a large number of delegations in the forty-sixth session of the Commission. It expressed appreciation of the continuing contributions from many donor Governments to the Pacific Trust Fund, and the supplementary financing provided by the Government of the United Kingdom to assist the participation of the representatives of six Pacific countries in the current Commission session. Many delegations expressed the hope that the current level of support from existing donors would be maintained, and that additional contributions would be made by prospective donor Governments so that the costs of participation by Pacific island members and associate members in future sessions of the Commission could eventually be met on a self-financing basis from income

earned by the Fund from those contributions. Several Governments made pledges of specific financial contributions, or of continued financial support to the Pacific Trust Fund in 1990 and/or in future years.

681. The Commission commended the secretariat on the successful completion of the annual orientation programme, with its emphasis on the training component during 1990. It urged the secretariat to continue that activity, which was considered a most useful and cost-effective way of maximizing the exposure of Pacific island government officials to the work of the secretariat and of the Commission.

682. The Commission expressed appreciation of the wide range of activities implemented by the various divisions, units and offices of the secretariat for the benefit of Pacific island countries. It was emphasized, however, that the impact and results of those activities should also be taken into account in any meaningful assessment of the contribution of ESCAP efforts to the promotion of social and economic development in the Pacific island subregion. The Commission welcomed the increased level of activity undertaken by EPOC since mid-1988, and was gratified at the closer interaction and co-operation between EPOC and concerned agencies in the Pacific island subregion.

683. The Commission expressed deep appreciation to the Governments of Australia, France, Japan, the Netherlands, New Zealand and Papua New Guinea, and to UNDP, of their generous support in cash or in kind for the implementation of activities for the benefit of Pacific island countries or involving Pacific island participation in previous years and in the current year. In that context, several donor Governments indicated that they would continue to support EPOC financially in 1990 and, if requested, would extend their co-operation to Pacific island countries in the joint conduct of economic activities and training in areas of mutual interest. Several other delegations stressed the importance of TCDC-ECDC, outlined the various areas of technical assistance provided by their Governments under the national ECDC and TCDC modalities, and announced their firm willingness to continue to offer such co-operation to Pacific island countries.

684. The Commission took note of the interest expressed by the Government of the Republic of the Marshall Islands in becoming a full member of ESCAP. The Executive Secretary informed the Commission that the secretariat would provide all possible assistance to the Republic on that matter.

Review of the conference structure of the Commission

685. The Commission had before it document E/ESCAP/737.

686. It expressed appreciation to the Executive Secretary of the comprehensive report, which provided an assessment of the effectiveness of the conference structure as requested in Commission resolution 262 (XLIII) of 30 April 1987. It noted that the report had taken due account of the views of the respective legislative committees themselves which had met during the past two years since the revision of the structure, the responses of the members and associate members of the Commission to the Executive Secretary's letter seeking their opinion on the revised committee structure, and the views of the Advisory Committee of Permanent Representatives and Other Representatives Designated by the Members of the Commission (ACPR).

687. With regard to the Commission session, it reconfirmed the view that it should meet annually for a duration of eight to nine working days. The Commission was satisfied that the system of having two Committees of the Whole and the Informal Working Group on Draft Resolutions had been functioning effectively. One delegation observed that the Commission session could be held once every two years, while another suggested that the duration of the annual session should be shortened to not more than eight working days.

688. With regard to the legislative committees, the Commission was of the view that the seven legislative committees, restructured in pursuance of its resolution 262 (XLIII) and the Commission's decision at its forty-fourth session, had not functioned sufficiently effectively as the principal subsidiary organs of the Commission. Divergent opinions had emerged regarding various aspects of the revised committee arrangement, including the combination of sectors assigned to each of the merged committees, the optimum number of committees, the duration, the use of time and other organizational and structural aspects.

689. Many delegations observed that the deliberations in some merged committees, notably the Committee on Development Planning and Statistics, had not been fully satisfactory. There had been little cross-fertilization of ideas between the planners and statisticians in that Committee. Both the technical and legislative competence of some of the merged committees seemed to have diminished as the participation of the experts had become uneven and the discussions more formalistic. Several delegations expressed the view that the statistics and environment sectors should be dealt with in separate committees. Some delegations felt that while the reduction in the number of committees from nine to seven had been expected to result in cost-saving, it was not clear how much saving had actually been achieved by both the secretariat and the member countries. The reduction, on the other hand, at least in the existing form, had affected their efficiency and effectiveness adversely. The Commission stressed that any change proposed in the committee structure should aim at achieving a balance between administrative efficiency and substantive effectiveness.

690. Noting the wide range of issues raised and the divergent views of its members on the question of the legislative committees and measures for enhancing their efficient functioning, the Commission endorsed the proposal of the Executive Secretary that the Commission postpone the overall review of the conference structure until the forty-seventh session and that the secretariat, with the advice of a group of eminent persons, conduct an in-depth study on the intergovernmental subsidiary structure of the Commission and submit its proposals to the Commission at that session. The existing committee structure should be adhered to pending the decision of the Commission.

691. The Commission recommended that the terms of reference of the group of eminent persons should go beyond a review of the committee structure and provide a sharper vision of the role of the Commission in facing development challenges in the coming decades. The group should evolve proposals for improved structures and procedures by which the Commission could respond more efficiently and effectively to the development aspirations of its members and associate members and meet their fast-changing needs in the light of emerging economic and social development trends. It was also suggested that the group of eminent persons should review the relevant aspects of the proposed ESCAP council for regional economic co-operation in the context of the conference structure.

692. The Executive Secretary informed the Commission that the in-depth study would place emphasis on measures by which to give further impetus to the Commission's growing scope for promoting regional co-operation; its inherent capabilities to address multidisciplinary development issues and plan and engage in comprehensive and integrated approaches to development; and its expanding role in undertaking technical assistance activities. The study should identify an intergovernmental subsidiary structure which would maximize the efficiency and effective operation of the Commission. The terms of reference of the study had been circulated in document ESCAP(XLVI)/CRP.2. The Commission was also informed that the group of eminent persons would be convened twice, in August and November 1990, so that its findings and recommendations could be discussed with ACPR and the proposals formulated by the Executive Secretary in time for submission to the Commission at its forty-seventh session. The Commission also noted with appreciation that the Government of Japan had generously provided funds for the conduct of the study and the convening of the group of eminent persons.

693. The Commission requested the Executive Secretary to submit his report based on the findings and recommendations of the group as soon as possible, to facilitate thorough consideration of the subject at the forty-seventh session.

694. Regarding the remaining aspects of the conference structure, the Commission recognized the need for further review of the functions of *ad hoc* conferences and intergovernmental meetings in relation to the legislative committees, especially to ensure their effectiveness, adequate co-ordination and avoidance of duplication. Other group activities, such as seminars and workshops, should be included in the conference structure. It was emphasized that those group activities which were of priority concern to the members and associate members of the Commission should take clear precedence over those for which funding could be found easily. With regard to the existing bodies under the auspices of the Commission, it was recommended that the conference structure should include only those bodies subsidiary to the Commission. In that regard, the Commission appreciated the initiative taken by the Executive Secretary in communicating with relevant bodies to confirm the co-operative working relationship and/or to re-establish a closer relationship and co-operation with them.

Announcement of intended contributions

695. The Commission had before it document E/ESCAP/738 and Corr.1 and 2.

696. The Executive Secretary informed the Commission that, with total cash contributions of $US 26.4 million in 1989, ESCAP extrabudgetary funding in 1989 had surpassed the regular budget resources by a significant margin. The importance of extrabudgetary resources for implementing the ESCAP work programme had increased steadily during the past few years, particularly in view of the zero growth observed in the United Nations regular budget. Concerning the sources of cash contributions in 1989, the Executive Secretary noted that about 64 per cent had come from the United Nations family, with UNDP, which had contributed about $US 12.3 million, ranking as the largest extrabudgetary donor. Bilateral donor and developing countries of the ESCAP region had contributed about $US 9.2 million. He expressed the hope that that level of extrabudgetary funding could be maintained, or even increased, in 1990. The contributions from 20 developing countries amounted to $US 860,000, and of that amount two countries, the Republic of Korea and China, had contributed about $US 536,000 through the establishment of the Korea-ESCAP Co-operation Fund and the China-ESCAP Co-operation Projects. He expressed the hope that other developing countries would come forward to establish such co-operation funds with ESCAP, for the promotion of TCDC in particular. The Executive Secretary also pointed out the importance of contributions in kind, particularly of 49 experts who had been made available on a non-reimbursable loan basis and who constituted an important addition to the staff strength of the secretariat.

697. The Executive Secretary stressed the importance of an adequate and timely response from donors to requests for funding of activities under projects connected with themes adopted by the Commission. In that connection, the Executive Secretary informed the Commission that UNDP had approved the provision of $US 1.5 million for an agreed package of activities under the Jakarta Plan of Action on Human Resources Development in the ESCAP Region.

698. The Executive Secretary further informed the Commission that, with generous contributions from the Governments of China, the Netherlands, Norway, the Republic of Korea and Sweden, the number of activities supported by the ESCAP TCDC supplementary fund had increased considerably in 1989.

699. The Executive Secretary reported to the Commission that by the end of 1989, 27 subprogrammes had gone through self-evaluation and the remaining 25 would be covered during the current biennium; in-depth evaluation of the energy programme might lead to new approaches in the programming of the energy sector; and in-depth evaluation of the Transport and Communications Decade was in progress. In that connection, the Executive Secretary pointed out that the severe financial constraints of the United Nations had affected the development of evaluation.

700. The Executive Secretary expressed deep gratitude for all the extrabudgetary cash contributions, as well as contributions in kind, made by a large number of Governments and international agencies, which had increased consistently year after year. He expressed the strong hope that the pledges for 1990 would once again reflect that welcome trend. The continued and consistent support of the members and associate members, as reflected by their generous contributions, once again reaffirmed their commitment to the ideals and purposes for which the Commission had been established. At the same time, they provided an eloquent testimony to the trust and confidence reposed by the Commission in the secretariat.

701. The Executive Secretary expressed the view that the secretariat, in principle, welcomed constructive criticism and appreciated the interest of the member countries in the implementation of ESCAP projects. In that context, he informed the Commission that the secretariat had been able to undertake technical assistance activities worth more than $US 20 million in 1989, despite the reduction in staff strength. The delivery rates during the same period for the UNDP and UNFPA assistance programmes, comprising both cash disbursements and unpaid obligations, had been of the order of 81 per cent and over 90 per cent, respectively. That was a very high rate by any standard. The secretariat's overall performance reflected the commitment and dedication of the staff members in fulfilling the Commission's expectations of them in responding to the needs of the developing ESCAP members and associate members. The views expressed by the delegations and the pledges made bore that out.

702. The Commission took note of the following intended contributions announced for 1990.

703. *Australia*. The representative of Australia announced the following contributions:

	$A
ESCAP programme of work	500,000
SIAP	60,000
RNAM	30,000

In addition, Australia would contribute $A100,000 to APDC. The representative of Australia further indicated that the allocation of funds for specific project proposals submitted earlier by the secretariat against the intended contribution for the ESCAP programme of work would be determined after further consultation with the secretariat. In that connection, he stated that the broad parameters of future programmes of assistance would be likely to include: (a) a greater concentration on funding for South Pacific subregional activities; and (b) a series of wider regional projects, predominantly covering Asia and in the fields of the environment, energy, transport and drug abuse prevention.

704. *Bangladesh*. The representative of Bangladesh announced the following contributions:

	$US
APCTT	5,000
SIAP	5,000
CGPRT Centre	1,000
RNAM	6,000

In addition, Bangladesh would contribute $US 15,000 to APDC.

705. *Brunei Darussalam*. The Commission was informed that Brunei Darussalam would indicate its intended contribution at a later date.

706. *China*. The representative of China announced the following contributions:

		$US
(a)	ESCAP programme of work - for China-ESCAP Co-operation Projects: ¥RMB 550,000	
(b)	ESCAP programme of work - for China-ESCAP Co-operation Projects (including $US 40,000 for the ESCAP TCDC supplementary fund):	120,000
(c)	SIAP	20,000
(d)	APCTT	15,000
(e)	RNAM	12,000

In addition, China would contribute $US 40,000 to CCOP, $US 50,000 to APDC and ¥RMB 100,000 to the Typhoon Committee.

707. *Fiji*. The representative of Fiji announced that his Government would contribute $US 2,000 to the Pacific Trust Fund.

708. *France*. The representative of France announced that the intended contribution of his Government in cash and in kind would amount to F 11,655 million, equivalent to about $US 2 million, for activities in the areas of agriculture, development planning, transport, the environment and human settlements, and for the Interim Mekong Committee.

709. *India*. The representative of India announced the following contributions:

	$US
SIAP	10,000
APCTT	100,000
RNAM	11,000

710. *Indonesia*. The representative of Indonesia announced the following contributions:

		$US
(a)	*Cash contributions*	
	SIAP	40,000
	APCTT	10,000
	RNAM	9,000
(b)	*Contributions in kind*	
	CGPRT Centre, equivalent to:	30,000

In addition, Indonesia would contribute $US 40,000 to CCOP, $US 47,300 to APDC, $M 582,152 to the SEATRAD Centre, and $US 49,576 to CIRDAP.

711. *Islamic Republic of Iran*. The representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran announced the following intended contributions:

		$US
(a)	ESCAP programme of work	12,000
(b)	APCTT	3,000

712. *Japan*. The representative of Japan announced the following contributions:

(a) Approximately the same level as in previous years, which was $US 2.5 million for the implementation of ESCAP projects under the Japan-ESCAP Co-operation Fund;

(b) A cash contribution of $US 613,900 to SIAP;

(c) An estimated provision of about $US 845,000 for host facilities and personnel at SIAP;

(d) Expert services provided on a non-reimbursable basis by the Japan International Co-operation Agency;

(e) Thirty fellowships for a training course to be conducted jointly with SIAP;

(f) A cash contribution of $US 330,000 to APDC, representing an increase of 4.25 per cent compared with the previous fiscal year on a yen basis;

(g) A cash contribution of $US 22,200 to the Interim Mekong Committee.

713. *Lao People's Democratic Republic*. The representative of the Lao People's Democratic Republic announced that his Government would contribute $US 1,000 for the ESCAP programme of work.

714. *Malaysia*. The representative of Malaysia announced the following contributions:

	$US
SIAP	7,000
APCTT	10,000
Pacific Trust Fund	1,000

In addition, Malaysia would contribute $US 40,000 to CCOP.

715. *Mongolia*. The representative of Mongolia indicated that his Government would contribute $US 3,000 in national currency to the ESCAP programme of work, representing an increase of $US 1,000 over the 1989 level.

716. *Myanmar*. The representative of Myanmar announced that his Government would make a contribution of $US 2,000 to the programme of work of ESCAP.

717. *The Netherlands*. The representative of the Netherlands announced that the Netherlands would contribute DFL 3.0 million, equivalent to approximately $US 1,580,000, for the implementation of ESCAP projects. In addition, the accrued interest income from previous years' assistance, amounting to approximately $US 250,000, would be authorized for use. He further indicated that 60 work-months of expert services at an estimated cost of DFL 600,000, equivalent to approximately $US 320,000, would also be provided.

718. *Pakistan*. The representative of Pakistan announced the following contributions, subject to parliamentary approval:

	$US
SIAP	8,000
APCTT	5,000
RNAM	14,000

In addition, Pakistan would contribute $US 30,000 to APDC.

719. *Papua New Guinea*. The representative of Papua New Guinea announced that his Government would contribute $US 1,000 for EPOC and $US 2,000 for the Pacific Trust Fund.

720. *The Philippines*. The representative of the Philippines announced the following contributions:

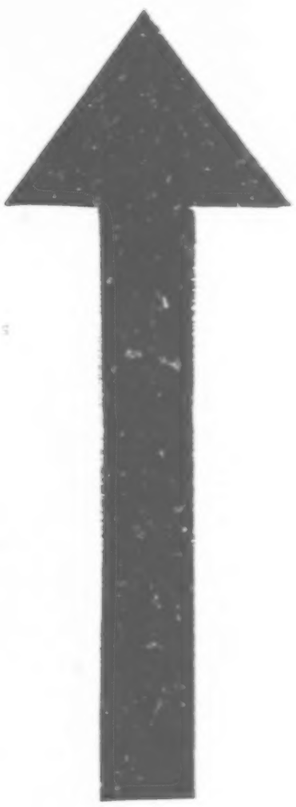
SIAP	$US	6,000
APCTT	$US	10,000
CGPRT Centre	$US	5,000
RNAM	P	525,000

In addition, the Philippines would contribute $US 20,000 to CCOP.

721. *Republic of Korea*. The representative of the Republic of Korea expressed the full confidence of his Government in the capacity of ESCAP in undertaking projects through the Korea-ESCAP Co-operation Fund. He announced that his Government would make the following contributions:

	$US
ESCAP programme of work under the Korea-ESCAP Co-operation Fund	300,000
SIAP	20,000
CGPRT Centre	15,000
RNAM	15,000

In addition, the Republic of Korea would provide four experts on a non-reimbursable loan basis, equivalent to $US 280,000, and an in-kind contribution for the organization of the Seminar on Family Planning Management Information Systems, estimated at $US 70,000. The Republic of Korea would also provide cash contributions of $US 30,000 to CCOP and $US 80,000 to APDC.



722. *Samoa*. The representative of Samoa announced that his Government would indicate its intended contribution in the near future.

723. *Singapore*. The representative of Singapore announced that a contribution of $US 5,000 would be made to SIAP.

724. *Sri Lanka*. The representative of Sri Lanka announced the following contributions:

	$US
SIAP	5,000
APCTT	5,000

In addition, Sri Lanka would contribute $US 27,500 to APDC.

725. *Thailand*. The representative of Thailand announced the following contributions:

APCTT	$US	15,000
SIAP	$US	10,000
RNAM	Baht	250,000

In addition, Thailand would contribute $US 40,000 to APDC and $US 30,000 to CCOP. She further indicated that her Government was in the process of approving the sum of $US 12,000 for the Typhoon Committee.

726. *Tonga*. The representative of Tonga announced that his Government would inform the secretariat of its intended contribution in the near future.

727. *Tuvalu*. The representative of Tuvalu announced that his Government would contribute $US 1,000 to the Pacific Trust Fund, and $A 1,500 for the ESCAP programme of work.

728. *Union of Soviet Socialist Republics*. The representative of the USSR announced that his Government would continue to provide fellowships for study in the USSR. Six seminars would be conducted in the USSR for participants from developing countries in the ESCAP region, which would involve an outlay of about $US 700,000 and R 200,000. In addition, his Government would provide expert services to APCTT on a non-reimbursable loan basis.

729. *United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland*. The representative of the United Kingdom commended the excellent and innovative report by the secretariat on project implementation status and supported the continuation of that reporting process. He indicated that the United Kingdom expected to continue to provide extrabudgetary funding for selected technical co-operation projects of ESCAP, while noting his Government's commitment to the concept of a zero-growth budget throughout the United Nations system.

730. *Vanuatu*. The representative of Vanuatu announced that his Government would contribute $US 1,000 to the Pacific Trust Fund.

732. *Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands*. The representative of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands announced that her Government would contribute $US 2,500 to the Pacific Trust Fund.

731. *Viet Nam*. The representative of Viet Nam announced that his Government would contribute at the same level as in 1989, i.e. $US 1,000 for the ESCAP programme of work and $US 1,000 for APCTT.

733. *Hong Kong*. The representative of Hong Kong announced that his Government would contribute $US 25,000 to SIAP, representing an increase of $US 5,000 over the 1989 contribution level. In addition, his Government would contribute $US 10,200 to APDC.

734. *Republic of the Marshall Islands*. The representative of the Republic of the Marshall Islands announced that his Government would contribute $US 2,500 to the Pacific Trust Fund.

735. *Federal Republic of Germany*. The representative of the Federal Republic of Germany announced that his Government would make available DM 1.3 million for technical co-operation projects in priority areas selected from the ESCAP programme of work. He also indicated that his Government placed emphasis on the assignment of long-term experts to ESCAP on a non-reimbursable loan basis through the German Society of Technical Co-operation. His Government would continue to provide three experts in the areas of regional transport infrastructure, promotion of industrial development and trade, as well as of improvement of agricultural production through adequate use of fertilizers.

736. *Norway*. The representative of Norway advised the secretariat that Norwegian assistance to ESCAP in 1990 would amount to NKr 5.5 million (approximately equivalent to $US 900,000) for activities, mainly in the fields of shipping, the environment, and women in development. In addition, special budget allocations in the fields of the environment and women in development would also be available for new catalytic projects.

737. The total pledges of contributions in cash and in kind for 1990 made by 27 member countries and 2 observer States amounted to approximately $US 16.6 million, excluding financial assistance amounting to about $US 1.2 million to CCOP, APDC, the Interim Mekong Committee and other affiliated programmes of ESCAP. The amount also excluded the expected intended contributions earlier conveyed to the secretariat, amounting to approximately $US 1.9 million. The total intended contributions in cash and in kind would, therefore, be $US 18.5 million, which was more than the 1989 level of intended contributions of $US 17.76 million. Of the 27 contributing member countries, 22 were developing countries or areas.

738. The Commission noted that the total intended contributions mentioned above did not include extrabudgetary resources received by the secretariat from UNDP, UNFPA and other agencies of the United Nations system for projects executed by ESCAP.

739. The Executive Secretary expressed deep appreciation of intended contributions by member and donor Governments to the extrabudgetary resources of ESCAP. The level of contributions reflected the continued confidence and trust of member and donor countries in the effectiveness and efficiency of ESCAP.

740. The Executive Secretary emphasized the benefit of evaluation for the donor countries, as well as for the recipient countries and the secretariat, in order to ascertain that the activities had had a measurable impact. He therefore urged donor countries to consider making cash contributions towards the undertaking of an in-depth evaluation of extrabudgetary programmes and projects, and in-kind contributions towards the manning of the Operations Evaluation Unit.

Activities of the Advisory Committee of Permanent Representatives and Other Representatives Designated by Members of the Commission

741. The Commission considered and endorsed document E/ESCAP/740 and Add.1, the report of the Advisory Committee of Permanent Representatives and Other Representatives Designated by Members of the Commission. It expressed appreciation of the report, which had been prepared and introduced by the Rapporteur of the Advisory Committee, the Deputy Permanent Representative of Indonesia to ESCAP.

742. The Commission commended the work of ACPR. It recognized the valuable role which ACPR had played, and should continue to play, in its advisory capacity, in facilitating close and routine consultations between the members and the secretariat. It reiterated the importance of ACPR as a unique forum in the United Nations, providing the means for holding such consultations on a regular basis. The Commission commended the manner in which ACPR had addressed difficult issues concerning the work programme and other substantive and operational aspects of the work of the Commission. It expressed appreciation of the spirit of trust, understanding and co-operation that had been engendered among the membership and between the membership and the secretariat through the frank and informal exchanges at the sessions of ACPR.

743. The Commission noted that ACPR had held 11 regular sessions during the year, during which it had: reviewed the conduct of the forty-fifth session of the Commission and made several recommendations for the improvement of future sessions; reviewed the preparations for and conduct of four legislative committee sessions; considered ways in which the Asian Clearing Union (ACU) could be strengthened; examined the criteria for priority-setting in the programme of work and priorities; considered the format and content of a report on the implementation of the work programme as requested by the Commission; examined the proposed programme changes, 1990-1991; reviewed the draft medium-term plan, 1992-1997; considered the implementation of Commission resolution 262 (XLIII) and, in that regard, considered the terms of reference of a proposed in-depth study on the intergovernmental subsidiary structure of the Commission; reviewed progress in the implementation of resolutions and major decisions adopted by the Commission; assisted in the preparations for the forty-sixth session of the Commission; and considered the theme topic for the forty-seventh session of the Commission. ACPR had also been consulted, at its special session held in January 1990, on the date and venue of the forty-sixth session.

744. To facilitate the discussions and effective work of the Advisory Committee, the Commission felt that more active participation of developing countries was desirable, especially since many developing countries, particularly the Pacific islands, were not represented at ACPR. The Commission indicated the need to ensure the timely submission of documents for consideration by ACPR.

745. The Executive Secretary expressed appreciation of the very supportive role and contribution of ACPR to the work of the secretariat. He was pleased to inform the Commission of the interest of other regional commissions and organizations in the pioneering role and constructive function of ACPR as an informal advisory structure promoting co-ordination and co-operation among members and the secretariat in facilitating the work of the Commission.

Date, venue and any other subject pertaining to the forty-seventh session of the Commission

746. The Commission had before it documents E/ESCAP/741 and E/ESCAP/747. It accepted with appreciation the invitation of the Government of the Republic of Korea to hold the forty-seventh session at Seoul. The Executive Secretary, after consultation with the host Government and the Chairman, would determine the exact dates of the session and inform the members and associate members of the Commission accordingly. The Government of the Republic of Korea agreed to bear all responsibility for the additional administrative, logistical and financial expenditure involved in holding the session away from the headquarters of the Commission and to fulfil the obligations under the standard agreement between the United Nations and the host Government. The secretariat agreed to take the necessary steps to seek the approval of the Economic and Social Council and the endorsement of the United Nations General Assembly in that regard. The Executive Secretary assured the representative of the Government of the Republic of Korea of the full co-operation of the secretariat in holding the forty-seventh session at Seoul.

747. Some delegations suggested that the Commission should consider the possibility of organizing a future session in one of the countries of the Pacific.

748. The Commission endorsed the choice of "Industrial restructuring in Asia and the Pacific, in particular with a view to strengthening regional co-operation" as the theme topic for its forty-seventh session. The Executive Secretary appealed to prospective donor Governments to provide financial support to enable the secretariat to undertake the preparatory work on the theme topic. The Commission felt that the subject of "Environmentally sound and sustainable development" could constitute the theme topic of a subsequent session.

Adoption of the report of the Commission

749. At its 708th meeting on 13 June 1990, the Commission unanimously adopted the draft report.

Chapter IV

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE COMMISSION AT ITS FORTY-SIXTH SESSION

46/1. Strengthening the population activities of the Commission in the 1990s [1]

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolution 1989/91 of 26 July 1989 on the convening of an international meeting on population in 1994, in which the Secretary-General was requested to ensure that the regional commissions, the specialized agencies, other bodies of the United Nations system and other international organizations make a substantive contribution to the international meeting on population,

Noting recommendation 52 of the Asia-Pacific Call for Action on Population and Development, adopted at the Third Asian and Pacific Population Conference, in which the secretariat is called upon to provide support to members and associate members of the Commission in the implementation of the recommendations of that Conference and to undertake periodic review and appraisal of the progress made in achieving the objectives of the Call for Action,

Aware of the review and appraisal of the Call for Action undertaken by the secretariat in 1988, which presents strategies for further implementation of the recommendations of the Call for Action,

Recalling its decision to hold the Fourth Asian and Pacific Population Conference at Jakarta in 1992 to review the changes in the population situation that occurred during the 1980s and highlight the perspectives of population policies and programmes during the 1990s in Asian and Pacific countries,

Having deliberated on the issue paper "Population policies and programmes in the 1990s: trends and prospects", endorsed by the Commission at its forty-fifth session, which highlights past trends in policy formulation and programme development and the future prospects for multi-sectoral approaches to population issues,

Stressing the role of the Commission in the field of population in the attainment of the goals and objectives of the international development strategy for the fourth United Nations development decade, and beyond,

Re-emphasizing the crucial importance of the success of population policies and noting the relative success of the population programmes of many members and associate members, and some stagnation in the efforts of others, as well as the need to maintain the strategies of quantitative success of the programmes and, where necessary, to restructure them from quantitative to qualitative aspects of population with special emphasis on the welfare of families, especially mothers and children,

Recognizing the extra demand and the Commission's limited resources in the areas of technical assistance, training, research and information in the field of population,

1. *Urges* the members and associate members to maintain and strengthen the present efforts in the areas mentioned in the last preambular paragraph of the present resolution;

2. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to convey to the General Assembly of the United Nations, the Economic and Social Council, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Population Fund and the Asian Development Bank the desire of the Commission for additional resources in support of the population programme of the secretariat within existing budget levels;

3. *Invites* donor countries and agencies within and outside the region to support the Commission's efforts to provide greater assistance to the members and associate members for the implementation of their population programmes;

4. *Also invites* members and associate members of ESCAP to participate actively in the Fourth Asian and Pacific Population Conference scheduled to be held in 1992, as well as in the international meeting on population to be held in 1994, so as to meet effectively the challenges facing Asia and the Pacific in the field of population in the coming decade;

5. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission at its forty-seventh session on the implementation of the present resolution.

708th meeting
13 June 1990

46/2. Urbanization strategies in the ESCAP region - Towards environmentally sound and sustainable development and management of urban areas [2]

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

[1] See paras. 501-508 and 528-531 above.

[2] See paras. 278-280 and 290-291 above.

Recalling the report of the World Commission on Environment and Development, which was welcomed by the General Assembly in its resolution 42/187 of 11 December 1987, in which it was recommended that countries should adopt integrated and explicit national settlements strategies and policies,

Also recalling United Nations Commission on Human Settlements resolution 12/18 of 2 May 1989, in which the Commission stressed that integrated planning and management of human settlements could be a powerful instrument for achieving sustainable development,

Recalling further resolution 268 (XLIV), adopted by the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific on 20 April 1988, on shelter strategies towards the year 2000, in which the Commission expressed deep concern at the spread of slums and squatter settlements lacking social services and infrastructure,

Deeply concerned at the alarming rate of urbanization in the Asian and Pacific region, and the likelihood that the expanding urban population in developing countries of the region may have to live and work in deplorable conditions,

Concerned at the concentration of urban growth in major cities of the region, generating acute problems of transport congestion, health and sanitation, drug abuse, and a growing backlog in provision and delivery of urban infrastructure, housing and social services, which cause environmental degradation, and create disparities in the quality of life, access to services and productive resources between these cities and the smaller urban and rural centres,

Recognizing, however, that urbanization offers unprecedented opportunities for economic growth and equitable provision of socio-economic benefits among subnational areas of the countries, if rationally distributed between mega cities, secondary cities, small towns and rural centres,

Taking note of the recommendation made by the Committee on Industry, Technology and Human Settlements, at its first session held in 1989, concerning the formulation of national urbanization strategies, better urban planning and management of the urban environment, and development of urban local management capabilities,

Also taking note of the close co-ordination required with the activities of other relevant agencies, in particular the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat),

Encouraged by the promotion of regional co-operation between urban local governments and non-governmental organizations in urban development and management through the activities of the Regional Network of Local Authorities for the Management of Human Settlements (CITYNET), which was established in Nagoya, Japan in 1987 and adopted its charter in Shanghai, China in 1989,

1. *Urges* all members and associate members to formulate and implement strategies for urbanization, urban development planning and management, with a view to managing population growth in major cities and better population distribution in the secondary towns and rural centres, and to take both remedial measures which would seek to mitigate existing problems and preventive measures designed to anticipate and avoid future problems by evolving selective and contextually suitable strategies and adopting participatory approaches that would ensure balanced and environmentally sound and sustainable development of human settlements;

2. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to prepare a report on the state of urbanization in the region and develop a regional plan of action to assist members and associate members in addressing the social, environmental and other problems and the potential presented by rapid urbanization;

3. *Decides* to convene in 1992, subject to the availability of resources, a regional conference on "Urbanization strategies in the ESCAP region - Towards environmentally sound and sustainable development and management of urban areas", with special reference to urban planning, development and management, which would review the state of urbanization in the region, consider the regional plan of action and develop a framework for the formulation of national action plans;

4. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to assist developing countries of the region in their efforts towards the formulation and implementation of strategies for urbanization, as a follow-up of the regional conference;

5. *Invites* potential donor Governments and organizations to provide the necessary extrabudgetary resources for the implementation of the present resolution;

6. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission at its forty-ninth session in 1993 on the implementation of the present resolution.

708th meeting
13 June 1990

46/3. Priorities and operation of ESCAP [3]

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Reaffirming the important role of ESCAP in promoting economic and social development in Asia and the Pacific and in initiating and strengthening co-operation in these fields within this region and with other countries,

Noting that it is necessary to respond to dynamic changes in global and members' economic and social structures and, in this context, that ESCAP needs to reflect and adapt to these changes,

Cognizant of its responsibility to address priorities for the work programme emerging from changing needs of members,

[3] See paras. 646, 648-650 and 657 above.

Recalling its resolution 262 (XLIII) of 30 April 1987 in which the Executive Secretary was requested, *inter alia*, to continue to pay special attention to the need to implement reorganization and rationalization programmes to improve the performance of the secretariat in the implementation of the programme of work and priorities, through suitable measures including evaluation, as well as the preambular paragraphs of General Assembly resolution 40/237 of 18 December 1985,

Noting with appreciation the efforts of the Executive Secretary to further improve the performance of the secretariat,

Seeking to enhance the capacity of ESCAP to carry out its mandate efficiently,

Emphasizing the need for the effective and efficient functioning of the intergovernmental structure of the United Nations and its secretariat support structures in the economic, social and related fields in order to further enhance international co-operation and efforts to promote development,

1. *Urges* members and associate members to address continuously priorities for the programme of work emerging from their changing needs;

2. *Requests* the Executive Secretary:

(a) To continue to improve the administrative and operational functioning of the secretariat in the effective implementation of the programme of work and priorities emerging from the changing needs of the members;

(b) To continue to consult regularly with members, particularly through the Advisory Committee of Permanent Representatives and Other Representatives Designated by Members of the Commission, to facilitate close interaction and exchange of relevant information between members and the secretariat for the effective implementation of the programme of work and priorities.

708th meeting
13 June 1990

46/4. Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries[4]

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 42/177 of 11 December 1987, 43/186 of 20 December 1988 and 44/220 of 22 December 1989 concerning the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries to be held at a high level in Paris in September 1990,

Recalling also its resolution 271 (XLIV) of 20 April 1988 on the United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries,

Expressing deep concern at the continuing deterioration in the overall economic and social conditions in the least developed countries in spite of all the efforts thus far,

Recognizing that the Conference will provide an important opportunity for the international community to discuss and adopt an appropriate plan of action for the 1990s for the least developed countries,

1. *Urges* all Governments, intergovernmental and multilateral organizations, and others concerned to exert every effort to ensure the success of the Conference;

2. *Calls upon* all members and associate members in the Asian and Pacific region to participate actively in the Conference;

3. *Notes with appreciation* the work undertaken by the secretariat in preparation for the Conference;

4. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to take measures within available resources to enable the secretariat to be appropriately strengthened in its capabilities for review, follow-up and monitoring of the plan of action for the 1990s for the least developed countries, at the regional level;

5. *Invites* the member countries in a position to do so, other donor countries, multilateral funding agencies and financial institutions to provide extra-budgetary support to the secretariat in its efforts towards implementation of the new plan of action;

6. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission at its forty-seventh session on the implementation of the present resolution.

708th meeting
13 June 1990

46/5. Regional follow-up of the World Conference on Education for All - Meeting Basic Learning Needs[5]

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 42/104 of 7 December 1987 proclaiming 1990 International Literacy Year and recommending that the regional commissions consider in their respective forums the contributions they could make to the success of the Year,

Further recalling Commission resolutions 266 (XLIV) of 20 April 1988 on International Literacy Year, 274 (XLIV) of 20 April 1988 on the Jakarta Plan of Action on Human Resources Development in the ESCAP Region, 45/1 of 5 April 1989 on a regional social development strategy towards the year 2000 and beyond, and 45/3 of 5 April 1989 on regional support for International Literacy Year,

[4] See paras. 177 and 178 above.

[5] See paras. 434-435 and 438-440 above.

Re-emphasizing that widespread illiteracy, as encountered in a number of developing countries of the ESCAP region, seriously hinders the process of economic and social development,

Expressing appreciation to the Executive Secretary of his efforts in implementing resolution 45/3, in particular by lending active support to the World Conference, of which ESCAP served as an associate sponsor,

Commending the United Nations Children's Fund, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the World Bank for initiating and organizing the World Conference,

Welcoming the World Declaration on Education for All and the Framework for Action to Meet Basic Learning Needs, adopted by the World Conference on Education for All - Meeting Basic Learning Needs, convened at Jomtien, Thailand from 5 to 9 March 1990,

Noting with appreciation the action taken by the Executive Secretary to develop and implement a regional programme of action in pursuance of the mandate given to the regional commission in the Framework for Action to Meet Basic Learning Needs,

1. *Endorses* the Executive Secretary's proposal to convene in 1990 a meeting of senior officials to formulate a regional programme of action in support of education for all in the ESCAP region at Bangkok;

2. *Urges* all members and associate members to contribute actively to the development of a regional programme of action in support of education for all through the participation of high-level policy makers in the meeting of senior officials;

3. *Invites* all concerned United Nations bodies and specialized agencies, as well as interested non-governmental organizations, to participate actively in the formulation of a regional programme of action in support of education for all and in the meeting of senior officials;

4. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to undertake further follow-up activities on the basis of the regional programme of action formulated by the meeting of senior officials;

5. *Further requests* the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission at its forty-seventh session on the programme of action in support of education for all in the ESCAP region.

708th meeting
13 June 1990

46/6. Integration of women in all aspects of development [6]

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 44/73 of 8 December 1989 on the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,

Recalling also General Assembly resolution 44/77 of 8 December 1989 on implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women,

Recalling further General Assembly resolution 44/171 of 19 December 1989 on the integration of women in development,

Bearing in mind Economic and Social Council resolution 1990/12 of 25 May 1990 on a world conference on women in 1995,

Recalling Commission resolution 211 (XXXVII) of 19 March 1981 on strengthening the Commission in the promotion of the integration of women in the development process,

Recalling the decision of the Commission that in the revised structure of the secretariat's proposed medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997 there should be a separate subprogramme on women in development,

Recognizing that effective participation by women in all areas of social and economic development is essential to the attainment of national development goals and aspirations, and that much further progress needs to be made to upgrade the status of women and enhance their participation in development in the Asian and Pacific region,

1. *Urges* members and associate members to intensify efforts at the national and regional levels to implement the measures contained in the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women, as well as the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women;

2. *Decides* to consider "Women in development" as the theme topic at a session of the Commission in the near future, so that special attention can be given to policies and programmes at the national and regional levels with regard to the advancement of women and their full participation in development;

3. *Invites* donor countries and agencies, especially the United Nations Development Fund for Women, to provide the requisite funds to enable the Commission to strengthen its programme of activities in the field of women in development in implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies;

4. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to convene in 1993 a regional intergovernmental meeting on women in development to review the progress achieved in Asia and the Pacific in implementing the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies and as a regional preparatory activity for the world conference on women to be convened by the United Nations in 1995;

5. *Also requests* the Executive Secretary, subject to available resources:

[6] See paras. 407-415 above.

(a) To undertake an analytical study on the progress made and obstacles encountered in the ESCAP region in implementing the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies as a basis for the Commission's deliberations on the theme topic of "Women in development";

(b) To formulate regional action proposals for improving the status of women in Asia and the Pacific for consideration at the regional intergovernmental meeting on women in development;

(c) To strengthen the capacity of the secretariat for the provision of technical assistance, regional co-operation and monitoring and evaluation concerning the status of women and their participation in development through making available an additional regular budget post to the subprogramme on women in development;

6. *Further requests* the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission at its forty-seventh session on the implementation of the present resolution.

708th meeting
13 June 1990

46/7. Promotion of foreign investment in least developed countries of Asia and the Pacific[7]

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Recalling the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries, in which it was recommended that the least developed countries should aim at increasing their growth of manufacturing output to an overall annual rate of 9 per cent or more,

Recalling also its resolution 235 (XL) of 27 April 1984 on the Tokyo Programme on Technology for Development in Asia and the Pacific, in which the Executive Secretary was requested, *inter alia*, to initiate measures for the technological development of the least developed, land-locked and island developing countries,

Recalling further the Meeting of Ministers of Industry and Technology of ESCAP members and associate members held in 1986, which emphasized that increased external resource transfers to the least developed countries could greatly facilitate their industrial and technological development,

Bearing in mind that inadequate finance and investment funds have hampered industrial development in the least developed countries,

1. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to assist the least developed countries in their overall investment promotion activities, including joint ventures and technical and other forms of collaboration, specifically through:

(a) Provision of assistance in the preparation of country profiles dealing with information on investment opportunities in least developed countries for prospective foreign investors;

(b) Assistance in identification of projects and preparation of project profiles;

(c) Organization of entrepreneurial, managerial and other skill development programmes, including negotiation techniques and technology transfer;

(d) Organization of investment promotion meetings in the developed countries between entrepreneurs from least developed countries and potential investors from developed countries and newly industrializing ESCAP members and associate members;

2. *Calls upon* the Executive Secretary to undertake activities, within available resources, aimed at strengthening the public sector and enhancing the role of the private sector in the least developed countries;

3. *Further calls upon* the Executive Secretary to seek co-operation from relevant international organizations, especially the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, the United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations, the International Trade Centre UNCTAD/GATT and the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, to implement the present resolution;

4. *Invites* donors to provide the necessary extrabudgetary resources to the secretariat to enable it to carry out the above activities;

5. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission at its forty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

708th meeting
13 June 1990

46/8. Technical and economic co-operation among developing countries for the least developed, land-locked and island developing countries[8]

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Recalling its resolution 264 (XLIV) of 20 April 1988 on strengthening activities for technical and economic co-operation among developing countries in the ESCAP region,

Recalling further its resolution 245 (XLI) of 29 March 1985 on mobilization of resources for the promotion of and support for technical and economic co-operation activities among developing countries,

[7] See paras. 172-176 above.

[8] See paras. 658-665 above.

Reaffirming the role of ESCAP in promoting economic and social development in Asia and the Pacific and in initiating and developing co-operation among developing countries in these fundamental responsibilities within the region and with other countries,

Considering the important role which technical and economic co-operation among developing countries could play in the socio-economic development efforts of the least developed, land-locked and island developing countries,

Noting the support of the Ministerial Meeting of the Least Developed Countries held at Dhaka in February 1990 for the strengthening of technical and economic co-operation among developing countries, and for providing greater and preferential access for least developed country products to regional markets on a long-term basis, and for the exchange of information and know-how,

Recognizing the remoteness and the inadequacy of transport and telecommunication services in the least developed, land-locked and island developing countries,

Reaffirming the importance of multilateral and bilateral co-operation among developing countries in the exploitation of land and sea resources and in exchanging expertise and information,

Acknowledging the paucity of adequately trained and skilled manpower in the public and private sectors in the least developed, land-locked and island developing countries,

1. *Invites* the developing members and associate members in a position to do so to undertake technical and economic co-operation with the least developed, land-locked and island developing countries in the areas of transport and joint exploitation and development of natural resources;

2. *Invites* relevant organizations in the United Nations system, and other international and regional institutions, to assist the least developed, land-locked and island developing countries in:

(a) The formulation of their short- and long-term plans of action so as to enhance their socio-economic development through indigenous entrepreneurship, transfer of technology, trade and investment;

(b) Co-ordinating and appraising their respective long-term management programmes for the middle- and upper-level managers in the public and private sectors;

(c) The design and implementation of an overall monitoring mechanism for their socio-economic development programmes and projects;

(d) Enhancing the exchange of socio-economic and technological information relevant to their respective development strategies;

(e) Overall investment promotion activities, including joint ventures and technical and other forms of collaboration;

3. *Invites* donor countries and multilateral funding agencies to provide technical and financial assistance to the least developed, land-locked and island developing countries of the region in the implementation of activities for technical and economic co-operation among developing countries;

4. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to assist the least developed, land-locked and island developing countries concerned in implementing activities for technical and economic co-operation among developing countries;

5. *Further requests* the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission at its forty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

708th meeting
13 June 1990

Annex I

REVISED PROGRAMME OF WORK AND PRIORITIES, 1990-1991

CONTENTS

	Page
Food and agriculture	97
Marine affairs	99
Development issues and policies	100
Environment	103
Human settlements	104
Industrial development	105
International trade and development finance	107
Natural resources	110
Energy issues	113
Population	115
Science and technology	117
Statistics	119
Transport I (Transport, communications and tourism)	121
Transport II (Shipping, ports and inland waterways)	124
Social development	127
Transnational corporations	130
Appendix	131

PROGRAMME: FOOD AND AGRICULTURE	Resource requirements (1990-1991)		
	RB (w/m)	*XB (w/m)*	*XB funds (thousands of US dollars)*
Programme total:	144	96	2 478.0
Subprogramme 1: ***Agricultural and rural development policy, planning and information systems***	72	0	559.0
Programme elements:			
1.1 *Review of agricultural development policies, strategies and performance**	24	0	147.0

Output:

(i) (a) Substantive servicing of the Committee on Agriculture, Rural Development and the Environment (fourth quarter, 1991); (b) Expert group meeting on selected regional issues concerning food, agriculture and rural development (1990) (intermediate activity)

(ii) Technical assistance: (a) Substantive backstopping to the Regional Co-ordination Centre for Research and Development of Coarse Grains, Pulses, Roots and Tuber Crops in the Humid Tropics of Asia and the Pacific, Bogor, Indonesia; (b) Strengthening of socio-economic development policies related to food and agriculture, covering such issues as international trade in agriculture, agriculture-industry linkages, modernization of fisheries and other emerging issues of regional importance

1.2 *Food supply assessment and distribution**	24	0	286.0

Output:

(i) Technical publication: (a) Training manual on satellite crop monitoring (fourth quarter, 1990); (b) Study on agro-climatic assessment of food supplies in Asia [postponed from 1988-1989]

(ii) Technical assistance: Strengthening of satellite crop monitoring to mitigate the impact of drought-induced food shortages and the impact of floods

1.3 *Development of agricultural information systems**	24	0	126.0

Output:

(i) Technical publication: Agricultural Information Development Bulletin (quarterly)

(ii) Technical assistance: Development of successful communications techniques for use in agriculture, including a regional network for co-operation in rural/agricultural communication with emphasis on the electronic media

Subprogramme 2: ***Understanding of critical elements of agricultural development***	24	96	1 368.0
Programme elements			
2.1 *Operation of the Fertilizer Advisory, Development and Information Network for Asia and the Pacific and the agricultural requisites scheme for Asia and the Pacific**	24	96	1 368.0

* Indicates priority programme element.

PROGRAMME: FOOD AND AGRICULTURE *(continued)*

	Resource requirements (1990-1991)		
	RB (w/m)	*XB (w/m)*	*XB funds (thousands of US dollars)*
Output:			
(i) Technical publications: (a) Regional Information Support Service (RISS): An Abstract Journal on Fertilizer-related subjects (monthly with annual index); (b) Agro-chemicals News in Brief (quarterly and two special issues every year); (c) Fertilizer Trade Information (monthly); (d) Calendar of Meetings on Agro-chemicals (quarterly); (e) Country studies on supply, marketing, distribution and use of fertilizers (fourth quarter, 1990; second and fourth quarters, 1991); (f) Development of a computerized fertilizer data base under the Network of Fertilizer Information Systems (two, first and fourth quarters, 1990; one, fourth quarter, 1991); (g) ARSAP/CIRAD agro-pesticide index (fourth quarter, 1990; and 1991); (h) Illustrated safety guides on pesticides, in local languages (second quarter, 1990; fourth quarter, 1991); (i) Agro-pesticides: their integrated management and application (first quarter, 1990); (j) Fertilizer Trade Information [postponed from 1988-1989]; (k) Six country studies on supply, marketing, distribution and use of fertilizers [postponed from 1988-1989]; (l) Five studies on fertilizer logistics management, farm-level distribution systems, pricing policies, credit availability and the economics of fertilizer use [postponed from 1988-1989]; (m) Study on fertilizer quality control, credit availability for fertilizers and increased fertilizer consumption under rainfed conditions [postponed from 1986-1987]; (n) ARSAP Pesticide Index - revised edition [postponed from 1988-1989]; (o) Agro-pesticides: Their Management and Application - revised edition [postponed from 1988-1989]			
(ii) Technical assistance: (a) Provision of advisory, information and training services for improving fertilizer production, use, trade and human resources development; (b) Strengthening and promotion of regional and interregional co-operation in fertilizers; (c) Improvement of pesticide safety and data collection; (d) Improvement of fertilizer distribution and marketing systems			
Subprogramme 3: ***Rural development focusing on improving the condition of disadvantaged groups***	24	0	281.0
Programme elements:			
3.1 *Improving the socio-economic conditions of the rural poor and disadvantaged groups and utilization of agricultural residues as energy sources for productive activities**	24	0	281.0
Output:			
(i) Technical publication: (a) Study on utilization of agricultural residues and other biomass as energy sources for productive activities (second quarter, 1991); (b) Study on improving socio-economic conditions of landless labourers and rural women; (c) Study on promoting non-farm employment [postponed from 1988-1989]			
(ii) Technical assistance: (a) Strengthening of institutional measures for improving market access, credit delivery and recovery systems, and extension services; (b) Promotion of innovative methodologies for generation of rural employment and improvement of income; (c) Improvement of the utilization of agricultural residues and other biomass as energy sources for productive activities in selected countries; (d) Sharing successful experience in the field of co-operatives			
Subprogramme 4: ***Co-ordination of the regional interagency programme on integrated rural development***	24	0	270.0
Programme elements:			
4.1 *Promotion of regional co-operation on integrated rural development*	24	0	270.0
Output:			
(i) Substantive servicing of the Interagency Committee on Integrated Rural Development for Asia and the Pacific and the Interagency Task Force on Integrated Rural Development (intermediate activity)			
(ii) Technical assistance: Implementation of the Interagency Co-ordinated Plan of Action for Integrated Rural Development			

PROGRAMME: MARINE AFFAIRS

	Resource requirements (1990-1991)		
	RB (w/m)	*XB (w/m)*	*XB funds (thousands of US dollars)*
Programme total:	57	0	450.0
Subprogramme 1: ***Exploration, evaluation, development and management of marine mineral resources***	57	0	450.0
Programme elements:			
1.1 *Strengthening of national capabilities and technical support to regional projects concerning marine mineral resources and geology*	28	0	159.0

Output:

(i) Substantive servicing of the Committee on Natural Resources and Energy (fourth quarter, 1991)

(ii) Report to the Committee on Natural Resources and Energy on progress in regional projects in support of CCOP and SOPAC (third quarter, 1991)

(iii) Technical publication: Study on the benefits derived from rational management of coastal resources (fourth quarter, 1991)

(iv) Technical assistance: (a) Training in the appraisal of the geology, occurrence, development and management of marine mineral resources; (b) Technical support to ESCAP/UNDP regional projects in support of CCOP and SOPAC (intermediate activity)

1.2 *Strengthening of national capabilities and promotion of regional co-operation relating to the integrated implementation of the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea**	29	0	300.0

Output:

(i) Technical publication: Study on the integration of marine affairs activities within government concerns: implications for technical assistance projects (third quarter, 1991)

(ii) Technical assistance: Strengthening of developing countries' capabilities with regard to the uniform implementation of integrated national marine policies under the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea

PROGRAMME: DEVELOPMENT ISSUES AND POLICIES	*Resource requirements (1990-1991)*		
	RB (w/m)	*XB (w/m)*	*XB funds (thousands of US dollars)*
Programme total:	336	24	2 981.0
Subprogramme 1: ***Economic and social development strategies and policies***	72	0	95.5
Programme elements:			
1.1 *Analysis of economic and social policy issues including review and appraisal of progress in the implementation of the international development strategy for the fourth United Nations development decade**	36	0	0.0

Output:

(i) Substantive servicing of the Committee on Development Planning and Statistics (fourth quarter, 1991)

(ii) Reports to the Commission on review and appraisal of progress in the implementation of the international development strategy for the fourth United Nations development decade (first quarter, 1990 and 1991)

1.2 *Comparative analysis of strategies, policies, policy instruments and institutions for economic and social development in the region*	36	0	95.0

Output:

(i) Report to the Commission on the feasibility of establishing an ESCAP council for regional economic co-operation (first quarter, 1991)

(ii) Technical assistance: (a) Promotion of employment and productivity in the light of new technological developments, through studies and an expert group meeting; (b) Assessment of new roles for private and public sectors in the development process of developing countries in the region, through studies and an expert group meeting; (c) Project on restructuring the developing ESCAP economies in the 1990s

Subprogramme 2: ***Development planning methods, modelling and projections and administrative systems***	72	0	1 325.5
Programme elements:			
2.1 *Development modelling and projections, and strengthening of development planning methods and capabilities**	48	0	1 190.5

Output:

Technical assistance: (a) Development of an interlinked model system; (b) Improvement of capabilities of national planners in methods and techniques of development planning

2.2 *Research and assistance in public finance and administration*	24	0	135.0

Output:

Technical assistance: (a) Review and evaluation of budgetary policy and control, including evaluation of public sector enterprises; (b) Effective local-level delivery of human resources development related programmes

PROGRAMME: DEVELOPMENT ISSUES AND POLICIES *(continued)*	*Resource requirements (1990-1991)*		
	RB (w/m)	*XB (w/m)*	*XB funds (thousands of US dollars)*
Subprogramme 3: ***Special measures in favour of the least developed countries***	48	0	510.5
Programme elements:			
3.1 *Monitoring and review of progress in the implementation of the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries, and assistance in the development of related programmes and policies**	24	0	330.5

Output:

(i) Intergovernmental Meeting on the ESCAP Least Developed Countries in Preparation for the United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries (first quarter, 1990)

(ii) (a) Reports to the Commission on the socio-economic performance of the least developed countries of the region within the context of the Substantial New Programme of Action (first quarter, 1990; and 1991); (b) Report to the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries (second quarter, 1990)

(iii) Technical assistance: Improvement of project planning and implementation capabilities in the least developed countries

3.2 *In-depth studies on problems of special concern to the least developed countries of the region*	24	0	180.0

Output:

(i) Technical publications: Studies on efforts for the mobilization of domestic savings and on financial resource requirements of the least developed countries of the region (second quarters, 1990 and 1991)

(ii) Technical assistance: (a) Assessment of efforts to mobilize domestic savings in the least developed countries of the region, through studies, training and seminars; (b) Assessment of financial resource requirements for the development of the least developed countries of the region, through studies, training and seminars

Subprogramme 4: ***Surveys and information on economic and social developments***	96	0	0.0
Programme elements:			
4.1 *Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific**	72	0	0.0

Output:

(i) Technical publication: Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific (first quarters, 1990 and 1991)

(ii) Expert group meetings on development issues and policies (third quarters, 1990 and 1991) (intermediate output)

4.2 *Collection, analysis and dissemination of information on major development issues and problems*	24	0	0.0

Output:

Technical publications: (a) Economic Bulletin for Asia and the Pacific (second and fourth quarters, 1990 and 1991); (b) Development Papers (second and fourth quarters, 1990 and 1991); (c) Development Planning Newsletter [postponed from 1988-1989]

PROGRAMME: DEVELOPMENT ISSUES AND POLICIES *(continued)*	*Resource requirements (1990-1991)*		
	RB (w/m)	*XB (w/m)*	*XB funds (thousands of US dollars)*
Subprogramme 5: ***Special measures in favour of island developing countries***	48	24	1 050.0
Programme elements:			
5.1 *Advisory, consultancy and training services, including research on development planning, policies and issues**	48	24	1 050.0

Output:

Technical assistance: (a) Strengthening the national development policy and planning processes; (b) Promotion of trade and investment co-operation among Pacific island countries, and between them and other ESCAP subregions

PROGRAMME: ENVIRONMENT	*Resource requirements (1990-1991)*		
	RB (w/m)	*XB (w/m)*	*XB funds (thousands of US dollars)*
Programme total:	96	120	3 211.0
Subprogramme 1: ***Environmental problems in the ESCAP region***	96	120	3 211.0
Programme elements:			
1.1 *Environmental awareness**	24	24	937.0

Output:

(i) Ministerial-level Conference on Environment and Development in Asia and the Pacific (second quarter, 1990)

(ii) Technical publications: (a) ESCAP Environment News (quarterly); (b)Regional strategy on environmental management in Asia and the Pacific (fourth quarter, 1990); (c) State of the environment in Asia and the Pacific [postponed from 1988-1989]

(iii) Technical assistance: (a) Environmental management in Asia and the Pacific through promotion of environmental awareness; (b) Establishment of a regional environmental data base

1.2 *Incorporation of environmental considerations into development planning and processes**	24	24	1 237.0

Output:

(i) Servicing of the Committee on Agriculture, Rural Development and the Environment (fourth quarter, 1991)

(ii) (a) Report to the Commission on the environmental aspects of development planning and sustainable development (first quarter, 1990); (b) Report to the Commission on special studies relating to environmental aspects of development of transport and agriculture [postponed from 1988-1989]

(iii) Technical publications: (a) Environmentally sound and sustainable development: implications for ESCAP (third quarter, 1991); (b) Manual on pollution control technologies (first quarter, 1991); (c) Guidelines on pollution control technologies for potentially hazardous industries (second quarter, 1991)

(iv) Technical assistance: (a) Promotion of environmentally sound and sustainable development in Asia and the Pacific; (b) Dissemination and follow-up in Asia and the Pacific of the findings and recommendations of the World Commission on Environment and Development; (c) Enhancement of planning and management of environmental technology in Asia and the Pacific; (d) Strengthening of national capabilities in natural resource management in Asia and the Pacific; (e) Environmental assessment of industrial and urban development in coastal areas of South-East Asia; (f) Training of policy planners and administrators on environmental management

1.3 *Management of terrestrial ecosystems**	24	24	537.0

Output:

Technical assistance: Strengthening of the Regional Network of Research and Training Centres on Desertification Control in Asia and the Pacific - Phase II

1.4 *Protection of the marine environment and related ecosystems*	24	48	500.0

Output:

Technical assistance: (a) Enhancement of the national capabilities for environmental management in Asia and the Pacific through protection of the marine environment and related ecosystems; (b) Technical support to co-ordinating group meetings of the South Pacific Regional Environment Programme (intermediate activity)

PROGRAMME: HUMAN SETTLEMENTS

	Resource requirements (1990-1991)		
	RB (w/m)	*XB (w/m)*	*XB funds (thousands of US dollars)*
Programme total:	72	48	781.0
Subprogramme 1: ***Integrated settlements policies and planning***	24	20	281.0
Programme elements:			
1.1 *Policies and strategies**	24	20	281.0

Output:

(i) Pre-Conference meeting of eminent persons for the Regional Conference on Urbanization (first quarter, 1991) (intermediate activity)

(ii) Report to the Commission on the implementation of the Global Strategy for Shelter to the Year 2000 (first quarter, 1990)

(iii) Technical assistance: Human resources development for improved awareness, formulation and implementation of shelter strategies and settlement development

Subprogramme 2: ***Development of shelter, infrastructure and land***	24	16	250.0
Programme elements:			
2.1 *Development and management of low-income shelter and land*	24	16	250.0

Output:

(i) Technical publication: Modular guide (third quarter, 1991)

(ii) Technical assistance: (a) Human resources development and dissemination of information on shelter, infrastructure and building materials technology; (b) Introduction of innovative land development and management techniques

Subprogramme 3: ***Stimulation of institutional capabilities and public participation***	24	12	250.0
Programme elements:			
3.1 *Strengthening regional and local institutions**	24	12	250.0

Output:

(i) Technical publication: Guidelines for community-based housing finance (fourth quarter, 1990)

(ii) Technical assistance: (a) Strengthening local authorities for the management of human settlements and supporting activities of CITYNET; (b) Support to regional housing centres (intermediate activity); (c) Human resources development in housing finance and credit for low-income housing; (d) Strengthening of exchange of experience among non-governmental organizations and community leaders

PROGRAMME: INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT	*Resource requirements (1990-1991)*		
	RB (w/m)	*XB (w/m)*	*XB funds (thousands of US dollars)*
Programme total:	144	24	1 250.0
Subprogramme 1: ***Policies and strategies***	48	24	407.0
Programme elements:			
1.1 *Review of industrial progress, plans and policies**	24	24	57.0
Output:			
(i) (a) Substantive servicing of the Meeting of Ministers of Industry and Technology (third quarter, 1990); (b) Expert group meeting on industrial development perspectives (second quarter, 1990) (intermediate activity)			
(ii) Technical publication: (a) Industrial Development News for Asia and the Pacific (one issue postponed from 1988-1989; third quarters, 1990 and 1991)			
(iii) Technical assistance: Advisory missions on planning and policy formation on industrial development			
1.2 *Development of agro-allied industries and small and medium-scale industries**	24	0	350.0
Output:			
(i) Technical publication: Small Industries Bulletin for Asia and the Pacific (fourth quarters, 1990 and 1991)			
(ii) Technical assistance: (a) Development of agro- and allied industries in the Asian and Pacific region; (b) Training and information exchange on small and medium-scale industries			
Subprogramme 2: ***Resource mobilization and project development and implementation***	48	0	407.0
Programme elements:			
2.1 *Resource mobilization programme**	24	0	257.0
Output:			
Technical assistance: Development of industrial skills and human resources			
2.2 *Project development and implementation*	24	0	150.0
Output:			
(i) Technical publications: Studies on sectoral industrial development (third quarters, 1990 and 1991)			
(ii) Technical assistance: (a) Revitalization of industrial development activities through studies and workshops; (b) Investment promotion activities			
Subprogramme 3: ***Regional and subregional industrial co-operation***	24	0	286.0
Programme elements:			
3.1 *Regional industrial co-operation**	24	0	286.0

PROGRAMME: INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT *(continued)*

	Resource requirements (1990-1991)		
	RB (w/m)	*XB (w/m)*	*XB funds (thousands of US dollars)*
Output:			
(i) Report to the Commission on the theme topic on industrial restructuring in Asia and the Pacific with particular reference to strengthening regional co-operation (first quarter, 1991)			
(ii) Technical publication: Study on industrial restructuring in Asia and the Pacific with particular reference to strengthening regional co-operation (first quarter, 1991)			
(iii) Technical assistance: (a) Promotion of industrial co-operation within the Asian and Pacific region; (b) Promotion of industrial activities and pilot projects in least developed and island developing countries through advisory and consultancy services			
Subprogramme 4: ***Enhancing the role and efficiency of industrial unaertakings in the public sector***	24	0	150.0
Programme elements:			
4.1 *Improvement of technical and managerial efficiency in the public sector*	24	0	150.0
Output:			
(i) Technical publications: Studies on the improvement of managerial and technical efficiency, including privatization of public sector industries (one in fourth quarter, 1990; one in fourth quarter, 1991)			
(ii) Technical assistance: Improvement of technical and managerial efficiency in the public sector			

PROGRAMME: INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT FINANCE	Resource requirements (1990-1991)		
	RB (w/m)	*XB (w/m)*	*XB funds (thousands of US dollars)*
Programme total:	312	96	2 752.0
Subprogramme 1: ***Trade expansion, trade facilitation measures and monetary co-operation***	96	0	990.0
Programme elements:			
1.1 *Trade expansion and major policy issues**	48	0	657.5

Output:

(i) (a) Substantive servicing of a session of the Committee on Trade (fourth quarter, 1990); (b) Intergovernmental meeting to develop policy issues and measures to combat the adverse effects of the graduation of the generalized system of preferences (fourth quarter, 1991); (c) Intergovernmental meeting on an integrated programme on manufactures (fourth quarter, 1991) [postponed from 1988-1989]

(ii) Technical publication: Study on the impact of containerization on regional trade (fourth quarter, 1991)

(iii) Technical assistance: (a) Promotion of proper and effective utilization of the facilities of the generalized system of preferences, through advisory services and meetings; (b) Enhancement of national capabilities to bring about benefits to national economies from trade in services, through advisory services and workshops; (c) Development of national capabilities to expand the scope of and to diversify trade, including trade in manufactures, high-technology goods and technology, through surveys and seminars; (d) Promotion of trade-creating joint ventures and trade-related foreign investments, including buy-back arrangements

1.2 *Monetary co-operation, trade and development finance, and balance-of-payments support*	24	0	31.0

Output:

Technical assistance: (a) Promotion of the Asian Clearing Union and the Asian Reinsurance Corporation; (b) Development of regional insurance and reinsurance education programmes through ECDC/TCDC arrangements; (c) Development of financial and credit facilities for trade expansion and co-operation among financial institutions in the ESCAP region

1.3 *Trade and customs facilitation measures*	24	0	301.5

Output:

(i) Organization of a meeting of national trade facilitation bodies (first quarter, 1990) [postponed from 1988-1989]

(ii) Technical assistance: Development of manpower in the field of trade and customs facilitation

Subprogramme 2: ***Trade promotion and development***	102	48	769.5
Programme elements:			
2.1 *Trade information**	42	24	301.5

Output:

(i) Technical publications: (a) Trade information source data bank (bimonthly and one issue postponed from 1988-1989); (b) Trade information source directory (quarterly and one issue postponed from 1988-1989); (c) TISNET trade information sheet (fortnightly, 23 issues per year); (d) TIS QUICK (irregular, 15-18 issues per year);

	Resource requirements (1990-1991)		
	RB (w/m)	*XB (w/m)*	*XB funds (thousands of US dollars)*

(e) Prices of selected Asia/Pacific products (monthly); (f) Directory of trade promotion/development organizations of developing countries and areas in Asia and the Pacific, fifth edition (fourth quarter, 1991); (g) Trade profiles (fourth quarter, 1991); (h) Computer print-outs, tapes and diskettes, using specialized TISNET data bases and trade inquiry/reply in response to requests from public and private sector organizations

(ii) Technical assistance: (a) Strengthening of the regional trade information network (TISNET) through the building up of computerized data bases, organization of meetings of senior officials on TISNET and in-service training of trade information officials; (b) Development and strengthening of trade/commodity information centres in the developing countries of the ESCAP region through advisory missions and training at national and regional levels, with particular reference to utilization of modern information technology

2.2 *Trade promotion development**	30	24	301.5

Output:

(i) Organization of a meeting of the heads of national trade development and promotion agencies (second quarter, 1990) [postponed from 1988-1989]

(ii) Technical assistance: (a) Promotion of co-operation between national trade promotion organizations; (b) Development of human resources in the field of trade promotion, through training and advisory services

2.3 *Market and product development**	30	0	166.5

Output:

(i) Technical publications: (a) Market guidebooks and traders' manual (two in 1990 and 1991); (b) Market profiles of selected products and commodities (third quarter, 1990; fourth quarter, 1991)

(ii) Technical assistance: Expansion of exports of developing countries, through trade fairs and advisory services

Subprogramme 3: ***Raw materials and commodities***	52	48	783.0

Programme elements:

3.1 *Promotion of subregional, regional and interregional co-operation in selected raw materials and commodities of socio-economic importance to member countries in the region**	28	0	301.5

Output:

(i) Organization of intergovernmental meetings of regional co-operative bodies in jute, silk and tropical timber (first and third quarters, 1990; second and fourth quarters, 1991)

(ii) Technical assistance: (a) Strengthening of co-operation in jute, silk and tropical timber, through studies, training workshops and seminars; (b) Strengthening of co-operative measures for other commodities, such as ramie, rattan, rubberwood furniture, and leather and leather products, through studies, workshops and seminars

3.2 *Development of commodities of interest to the region*	24	48	481.5

Output:

Technical assistance: Development in trade of commodities of socio-economic interest, through publications on trade in mineral and agricultural commodities, development of econometric models, studies and training seminars

PROGRAMME: INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT FINANCE *(continued)*	*Resource requirements (1990-1991)*		
	RB (w/m)	*XB (w/m)*	*XB funds (thousands of US dollars)*
Subprogramme 4: ***Least developed, land-locked and island developing countries***	30	0	18.0
Programme elements:			
4.1 *Improvement of trade performance of least developed, land-locked and island developing countries**	30	0	18.0

Output:

(i) Substantive servicing of a session of the Special Body on Land-locked Countries (fourth quarter, 1990)

(ii) Technical assistance: Improvement of the trade performance of least developed, land-locked and island developing countries

Subprogramme 5: ***Economic co-operation among developing countries in trade-related areas***	32	0	191.5
Programme elements:			
5.1 *Promotion of subregional, regional and interregional trade co-operation*	32	0	191.5

Output:

(i) Substantive servicing of four sessions of the Standing Committee of the Bangkok Agreement (1990, 1991)

(ii) Report to the Standing Committee of the Bangkok Agreement on the promotional activities for the enlargement of membership and scope of the Bangkok Agreement (fourth quarter, 1991)

(iii) Technical publications: (a) Trade review of the Bangkok Agreement (fourth quarter, 1991); (b) Computer tapes/diskettes and print-outs on trade and tariff data in response to requests from public and private sector organizations of the Bangkok Agreement countries

(iv) Technical assistance: (a) Promotion of the Bangkok Agreement through studies and organization of high-level missions; (b) Promotion of trade through other forms of trade co-operation among developing countries of the ESCAP region

PROGRAMME: NATURAL RESOURCES

	Resource requirements (1990-1991)		
	RB (w/m)	*XB (w/m)*	*XB funds (thousands of US dollars)*
Programme total:	246	72	1 870.0
Subprogramme 1: ***Exploration, evaluation, rational utilization and management of mineral resources***	93	0	530.0
Programme elements:			
1.1 *Exploration, assessment and development of mineral resources*	30	0	100.0

Output:

(i) Substantive servicing of the Committee on Natural Resources and Energy (fourth quarter, 1991)

(ii) Technical publications: (a) Atlas of Stratigraphy: Quaternary (second quarters, 1990 and 1991); (b) Atlas of Stratigraphy: Triassic (first quarter, 1991); (c) Atlas of Mineral Resources (third quarters, 1990 and 1991)

(iii) Technical publication: Newsletter (second and fourth quarters, 1990 and 1991)

1.2 *Strengthening of national capabilities of investigation and development of mineral resources, and technical support to regional and subregional mineral projects**	32	0	280.0

Output:

(i) Technical publications: (a) Exploration monographs (first quarter, 1990; fourth quarter, 1991); (b) Review of mineral exploration activities 1988-1989 (second quarter, 1990); (c) Mineral concentrations and hydrocarbon accumulations series (second quarter, 1991)

(ii) Technical assistance: (a) Technical support to the South-East Asia Tin Research and Development Centre (SEATRADC) (intermediate activity); (b) Training in assessment and development of mineral resources through a regional mineral resources development programme; (c) Training in mineral commodity development and data base design

1.3 *Geology for planning**	31	0	150.0

Output:

(i) Technical publications: (a) Atlas of Urban Geology (1990, 1991); (b) Geological aspects of natural hazards in land-use planning (1990)

(ii) Technical assistance: Training in environmental geology for sustained development for land-use planning and in urban geology

Subprogramme 2: ***Rational development, management and utilization of water resources***	129	0	540.0
Programme elements:			
2.1 *Support for the implementation of the Mar del Plata Action Plan**	29	0	250.0

Output:

(i) Report to the Committee on Natural Resources and Energy on the status of implementation of the Mar del Plata Action Plan (fourth quarter, 1991)

PROGRAMME: NATURAL RESOURCES *(continued)*

	Resource requirements (1990-1991)		
	RB (w/m)	*XB (w/m)*	*XB funds (thousands of US dollars)*

(ii) Technical publication: Study on assessment of water resources of member countries and demand by user sectors - Phase I (fourth quarter, 1991)

(iii) Technical assistance: Promotion of application of guidelines for the preparation of national master water plans among development planners, through information exchange and training

2.2 *Promotion of regional co-operation in water resources development*	27	0	0.0

Output:

(i) Technical publication: Study on ground-water quality monitoring in Asia and the Pacific (second quarter, 1991)

(ii) (a) Expert group meeting to review the study on ground-water quality monitoring and to advise on establishing guidelines and systems (third quarter, 1991); (b) Organization of the meetings of the Interagency Task Force on Water for Asia and the Pacific (second and fourth quarters, 1990 and 1991) (intermediate activity)

(iii) Technical assistance: Support to the Interim Committee for Co-ordination of Investigations of the Lower Mekong Basin (intermediate activity)

2.3 *Mitigation of damage from cyclones, floods and droughts**	24	0	100.0

Output:

(i) Report to the Committee on Natural Resources and Energy on preparedness, including available mechanisms and facilities, and measures for consequences, mitigation and prevention of water-related natural disasters at the beginning of the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction

(ii) Technical publications: (a) Manual and guidelines for comprehensive flood loss prevention and management (fourth quarter, 1990); (b) Natural disaster reduction in Asia and the Pacific: Launching the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction (fourth quarter, 1991)

(iii) Regional symposium on the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction (fourth quarter, 1990)

(iv) Technical assistance: (a) Promotion of measures for reduction of water-related disasters in Asia and the Pacific through research, training and advisory services - Phase I; (b) Support to the Typhoon Committee and the Panel on Tropical Cyclones (intermediate activity)

2.4 *Information and training in water resources development*	25	0	90.0

Output:

(i) Technical publications: (a) Water Resources Journal (quarterly); (b) Confluence (second and fourth quarters, 1990 and 1991); (c) Water Resources Series (fourth quarter, 1990; second, third and fourth quarters, 1991)

(ii) Technical assistance: Promotion of exchange of information and expertise exchange among the participating institutes in the regional network for training in water resources development - Phase II

2.5 *Non-conventional water development and environmental aspects of water resources development*	24	0	100.0

Output:

(i) Technical publications: (a) Study on prospects for the application of solar energy to water pumping in the region (second quarter, 1990); (b) Study on prospects for the application of wind energy to water pumping in the region (third quarter, 1991)

(ii) Technical assistance: Promotion of consideration of the environment in the sustainable development of water resources through training, and TCDC in water resources development

PROGRAMME: NATURAL RESOURCES *(continued)*

	Resource requirements (1990-1991)		
	RB (w/m)	*XB (w/m)*	*XB funds (thousands of US dollars)*
Subprogramme 3: ***Cartography and remote sensing***	24	72	800.0
Programme elements:			
3.1 *Promotion of regional co-operation in the application of remote sensing techniques for efficient management of natural resources and the environment*	24	72	800.0

Output:

(i) Report to the Committee on Natural Resources and Energy on the current status of application of remote sensing techniques for efficient assessment, development, utilization and management of natural resources and environment (fourth quarter, 1991)

(ii) Technical assistance: Strengthening national capabilities in the application of remote sensing techniques for efficient assessment, development, utilization and management of natural resources and the environment

PROGRAMME: ENERGY ISSUES

	Resource requirements (1990-1991)		
	RB (w/m)	*XB (w/m)*	*XB funds (thousands of US dollars)*
Programme total:	153	24	528.0
Subprogramme 1: ***Energy assessment and planning***	49	0	78.0
Programme elements:			
1.1 *Regional energy scenes and economy**	25	0	28.0

Output:

(i) (a) Substantive servicing of the Committee on Natural Resources and Energy (fourth quarter, 1991); (b) Senior expert group meeting of energy experts preparatory to the sixteenth session of the Committee on Natural Resources and Energy (third quarter, 1991)

(ii) Report to the Committee on Natural Resources and Energy on the regional energy scene: development trends (fourth quarter, 1991)

(iii) Technical publications: (a) Electric Power in Asia and the Pacific (fourth quarter, 1990); (b) ESCAP Energy News (three in 1990; three in 1991)

1.2 *Strengthening of national capabilities in integrated energy planning and programming and management of energy demand*	24	0	50.0

Output:

(i) Substantive servicing of the Tripartite Review Conference of the Regional Energy Development Programme (third quarters, 1990 and 1991)

(ii) Report to the Committee on Natural Resources and Energy on the regional working group on energy planning and co-ordination (third quarter, 1991)

(iii) Technical publications: (a) Energy Resources Development Series (third quarter, 1990); (b) Analysis of sectoral energy demand in eight Asian countries (fourth quarter, 1990)

(iv) Technical assistance: (a) Development of integrated energy planning through forums, workshops, training seminars and formation of a regional working group on energy planning and co-ordination; (b) Technical support to regional projects (Regional Energy Development Programme, Pacific Energy Development Programme) and the Pacific energy meeting

Subprogramme 2: ***Accelerated development and use of new and renewable sources of energy***	30	0	100.0
Programme elements:			
2.1 *Assessment, co-operative research, development, demonstration, transfer, adaptation and application of mature new and renewable energy technologies**	30	0	100.0

Output:

(i) Report to the Committee on Natural Resources and Energy on the activities of the regional working group on rural energy planning in areas such as biogas, biomass/cookstoves/charcoal, geothermal, solar photovoltaic, solar thermal, mini-hydro and wind energies, expected to be operating during the period (fourth quarter, 1991)

(ii) Technical publication: Guidebook on Rural Electrification (fourth quarter, 1990)

PROGRAMME: ENERGY ISSUES *(continued)*	*Resource requirements (1990-1991)*		
	RB (w/m)	*XB (w/m)*	*XB funds (thousands of US dollars)*
(iii) Technical assistance: Development of integrated energy planning for rural applications through studies and training, and assistance in the implementation of activities of the regional working group on rural energy planning and new energy			
Subprogramme 3: ***Integrated investigation, development, conservation and efficient use of overall energy with emphasis on conventional sources of energy***	74	24	350.0
Programme elements:			
3.1 *Development and utilization of coal, oil and natural gas resources*	26	24	100.0
Output:			
(i) (a) Report to the Committee on Natural Resources and Energy on the activities of the regional working group on coal (fourth quarter, 1991); (b) Report to the Committee on Natural Resources and Energy on progress of the regional working group on natural gas (fourth quarter, 1991); (c) Report to the Committee on Natural Resources and Energy on the effects of different oil price scenario assumptions on regional economic development (fourth quarter, 1991)			
(ii) Technical publications: (a) Environmentally acceptable economic uses of abandoned offshore platforms with reference to tropical waters (fourth quarter, 1990); (b) Energy policy implications of climatic effects of increased fossil fuel utilization (third quarter, 1991)			
(iii) Technical assistance: (a) Advisory missions on oil- and gas-related issues; (b) Promotion of increased gas utilization, and secondary and tertiary recovery of oil, through study tours and training and assistance in the implementation of activities of the regional working group on natural gas; (c) Human resources development, using training courses, seminars and studies and the formation of a regional working group on coal			
3.2 *Energy conservation and conversion policy**	24	0	50.0
Output:			
(i) Report to the Committee on Natural Resources and Energy on the activities of the regional working group on energy conservation (fourth quarter, 1991)			
(ii) Technical assistance: Promotion of energy conservation through information exchange, training and advisory missions with special reference to environmental protection and better energy management in cities and rural areas, and through assistance in the implementation of activities of the working group on energy conservation			
3.3 *Power system planning and management and peaceful uses of nuclear energy**	24	0	200.0
Output:			
(i) (a) Report to the Committee on Natural Resources and Energy on the progress of the regional working group on electric power development (fourth quarter, 1991); (b) Report to the Committee on Natural Resources and Energy on the problems and prospects of electric power development in the ESCAP region (second quarter, 1990); (c) Report to the Committee on Natural Resources and Energy on the prospects of nuclear electricity generation in the ESCAP region (fourth quarter, 1990)			
(ii) Technical assistance: (a) Promotion of optimum utilization and conservation of electricity, through studies, training, advisory missions and assistance in the implementation of activities of the regional working group on electric power development; (b) Support to the regional activities organized by the International Atomic Energy Agency			

PROGRAMME: POPULATION	Resource requirements (1990-1991)		
	RB (w/m)	*XB (w/m)*	*XB funds (thousands of US dollars)*
Programme total:	144	216	2 981.0
Subprogramme 1: ***Population and development***	48	48	1 250.5
Programme elements:			
1.1 *Formulation and implementation of population-development policies and programmes**	24	24	510.5

Output:

(i) Substantive servicing of the Committee on Population and Social Development (third quarter, 1990)

(ii) (a) Report to the Commission on population issues in the region (first quarters, 1990 and 1991); (b) Report to the Population Commission on the population situation in the region (first quarter, 1991)

(iii) Technical publications: (a) Studies on consequences of the population changes, Asian Population Studies Series (four issues in third quarter, one issue in fourth quarter, 1991); (b) Estimates of demographic indicators for Asian and Pacific countries (first quarters, 1990 and 1991)

(iv) Technical assistance: (a) Advisory missions for the formulation and implementation of population development policies and programmes; (b) Pre-conference seminars for the Fourth Asian and Pacific Population Conference (fourth quarters, 1990 and 1991)

1.2 *Assistance to integrated population programmes for development in ESCAP member countries**	24	24	740.0

Output:

(i) Technical publications: (a) Studies on the aging of population and its policy implications in the context of urbanization and industrialization, Asian Population Studies Series (third quarters, 1990 and 1991); (b) Study on urbanization and socio-economic development in the ESCAP region, Asian Population Studies Series (second quarter, 1991); (c) Study on urbanization and the status of women [postponed from 1988-1989]

(ii) Fellowships (36) for human resources development in population (second quarters, 1990 and 1991)

(iii) Technical assistance: (a) Regional advisory services to strengthen integrated population programmes for development; (b) Assistance for planning small towns and rural human resources development to reduce migration to large cities

Subprogramme 2: ***Population policies***	48	72	920.5
Programme elements:			
2.1 *Support to countries in developing and implementing population policies and programmes**	24	48	400.5

Output:

Technical assistance: (a) Assistance in development and implementation of population policies and programmes; (b) Strengthening of fertility research and programme evaluation activities; (c) Improvement of skills of population programme personnel and researchers; (d) Improvement of the service statistics system of family planning programmes; (e) Promotion of community participation as a programme strategy in the population programmes through seminars and workshops, training and demonstration projects; (f) Strengthening of the integrated approach in family planning programmes through TCDC and seminars and workshops

PROGRAMME: POPULATION *(continued)*

	Resource requirements (1990-1991)		
	RB (w/m)	*XB (w/m)*	*XB funds (thousands of US dollars)*
2.2 *Studies on population policies and programmes and related issues*	24	24	520.0

Output:

(i) *Ad hoc* expert group meeting to review the policy options and programme implications of the interrelationships between population, environment and resources, *vis-à-vis* community participation and an integrated approach to family planning (fourth quarter, 1990)

(ii) Technical publications: Studies related to acceptance of family planning, and level and determinants of fertility, Asian Population Studies Series (two in each quarter, 1990 and 1991)

(iii) Technical assistance: (a) Strengthening the role of women and their participation in development; (b) Improvement of the status of women through training, studies and TCDC for sharing experience; (c) Promotion of environmental awareness through studies, seminars and workshops on the interrelationships between population, environment and resources

Subprogramme 3: ***Population information***	48	96	810.0
Programme elements:			
3.1 *Information support, including publications and data base services, to developing countries in the region*	24	24	280.0

Output:

(i) Technical publications: (a) Asia-Pacific Population Journal (quarterly); (b) Population Headliners (monthly); (c) Population Research Leads (three issues per year); (d) *Ad hoc* publications, including catalogues, brochures and data sheets (one or two per year)

(ii) Technical assistance: (a) Training of government personnel in preparation and presentation of population publications and in development of population data bases; (b) *Ad hoc* technical information service: computer printouts on population in response to requests from users in the region

3.2 *Assistance in the development of population information centres and networks, including co-ordination of the Asia-Pacific Population Information Network and development of a regional population data bank**	24	72	530.0

Output:

(i) Technical publications: (a) Asia-Pacific POPIN Bulletin (quarterly); (b) Asia-Pacific POPIN directory (fourth quarter, 1990); (c) Asia-Pacific POPIN meeting report (1991); (d) Asian-Pacific POPIN Bulletin [postponed from 1988-1989]

(ii) Technical assistance: (a) Organization of the biennial technical meeting on Asia-Pacific POPIN (second quarter, 1990); (b) Strengthening of population information sources, through training and workshops, grants to national population information centres and institutions, and TCDC; (c) Development of national, subregional and regional information systems and networks; (d) Provision of technical assistance and backstopping services to population information centres and UNFPA country programme execution; (e) Development of a regional population data bank

PROGRAMME: SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY	*Resource requirements (1990-1991)*		
	RB (w/m)	*XB (w/m)*	*XB funds (thousands of US dollars)*
Programme total:	144	24	1 632.0
Subprogramme 1: ***Institutional and policy infrastructure for science and technology***	48	0	500.0
Programme elements:			
1.1 *Improvements in science and technology policy and institutional infrastructure*	24	0	100.0

Output:

(i) Meeting of Ministers of Industry and Technology (third quarter, 1990)

(ii) *Ad hoc* expert group meeting on the legal aspects of the transfer of emerging technologies (fourth quarter, 1990)

(iii) Technical publication: Study on legal aspects of transfer of new and emerging technologies (fourth quarter, 1991)

(iv) Technical assistance: Promotion of the legal aspects of the transfer of emerging technologies

1.2 *Promotion and application of technology for selected industries*	24	0	400.0

Output:

(i) Report to the Commission on the survey of activities undertaken by selected developing countries for the implementation of the Tokyo Programme of Action on Technology for Development (first quarter, 1991)

(ii) Technical assistance: (a) Strengthening of technological capabilities within the framework of the Vienna Programme of Action on Science and Technology for Development and the ESCAP Plan of Action on Technology for Development; (b) Improvement of energy conservation in the commercial and domestic sectors; (c) Promotion of tribological techniques in industries; (d) Assistance in application of technology for selected industries

Subprogramme 2: ***Strengthening technological capabilities of member countries***	72	24	862.0
Programme elements:			
2.1 *Strengthening national and regional institutions**	24	0	220.0

Output:

Technical assistance: (a) Support to the Asian and Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology; (b) Support to the Regional Network for Agricultural Machinery; (c) Strengthening project generation capabilities, engineering design and consultancy services; (d) Endogenous capacity building in science and technology for development

2.2 *Promotion of development, transfer and diffusion of technology**	24	0	330.0

Output:

(i) Technical publications: (a) Revised directory of marketable technology in Asia and the Pacific (second quarter, 1991); (b) Manual on information, education and communication techniques for popularizing innovations in food technology (fourth quarter, 1991); (c) Revised training manual on the foreign technologies and negotiation and execution of contracts [postponed from 1988-1989]; (d) Directory of marketable technology of the ESCAP region [postponed from 1988-1989]

PROGRAMME: SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY *(continued)*	*Resource requirements (1990-1991)*		
	RB (w/m)	*XB (w/m)*	*XB funds (thousands of US dollars)*
(ii) Technical assistance: (a) Development and popularization of industrial technology for food storage and processing in selected developing countries; (b) Exposition on technology for the people; (c) Human resources development and institutional strengthening for technical progress and employment generation in the rural and urban sectors of developing countries; (d) Selection and management of technology for development			
2.3 *Provision of technological support services**	24	24	312.0
Output:			
(i) Report to the Commission on the review of selected standardization activities (first quarter, 1991)			
(ii) Technical assistance: (a) Improvement and strengthening of national standardization mechanisms; (b) Promotion of total quality control management technology for industries			
Subprogramme 3: ***Monitoring major breakthrough in science and technology***	24	0	270.0
Programme elements:			
3.1 *Assessment, acquisition, assimilation and development of new technologies**	24	0	270.0
Output:			
Technical assistance: (a) Assessment of new technologies; (b) Development of strategies for the acquisition and absorption of new technologies; (c) Promotion of research, development and demonstration activities in selected areas of technology for development			

PROGRAMME: STATISTICS

	Resource requirements (1990-1991)		
	RB (w/m)	*XB (w/m)*	*XB funds (thousands of US dollars)*
Programme total:	192	120	1 822.0
Subprogramme 1: ***Statistics development***	120	96	1 124.0
Programme elements:			
1.1 *Promotion, co-ordination and management of statistical development activities in the region*	38	4	62.0

Output:

(i) Substantive servicing of the Committee on Development Planning and Statistics (1991)

(ii) Technical publication: (a) Statistical Newsletter (quarterly); (b) Statistical Newsletter [postponed from 1988-1989]

(iii) Substantive servicing of a working group of statistical experts

(iv) Technical assistance: Technical and substantive support to the Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific

1.2 *Promotion of overall national statistical capabilities**	30	0	296.0

Output:

(i) Technical publication: Sample Surveys in the ESCAP Region (third quarters, 1990 and 1991)

(ii) Technical assistance: (a) Assistance on general statistical organization and development, through advisory missions; (b) Strengthening overall national statistical capabilities; (c) Improving statistics for human resources development

1.3 *Development of economic statistics, including national accounts*	24	24	150.0

Output:

Technical assistance: Development, improvement and analysis of economic statistics, including national accounts

1.4 *Development of social, demographic and other related statistics*	28	68	616.0

Output:

Technical assistance: Development and improvement of social, demographic and other related statistics

Subprogramme 2: ***Statistical information services***	48	0	0.0
Programme elements:			
2.1 *Collection of basic data relating to all fields of statistics, their editing and maintenance in time series records and their retrieval for dissemination through special compilations and secretariat publications*	24	0	0.0

PROGRAMME: STATISTICS *(continued)*

	Resource requirements (1990-1991)		
	RB (w/m)	*XB (w/m)*	*XB funds (thousands of US dollars)*
Output:			
Technical publications: (a) Asia-Pacific in Figures (1990 and 1991); (b) Statistical Yearbook for Asia and the Pacific (1990 and 1991); (c) Foreign Trade Statistics in Asia and the Pacific (1990 and 1991); (d) Statistical Indicators for Asia and the Pacific (quarterly)			
2.2 *Development of a network of statistical data bases within the ESCAP secretariat**	24	0	0.0
Output:			
No final output: maintenance of a centralized statistical data base accessible to various divisions and units of the secretariat, and linked with United Nations Headquarters in New York and Geneva and countries of the region			
Subprogramme 3: ***Government computerization***	24	24	698.0
Programme elements:			
3.1 *Assistance in the planning and management of computerization development**	24	24	698.0
Output:			
Technical assistance: (a) Identification of policy issues of public sector computerization in Asia and the Pacific; (b) Strengthening infrastructure for public sector computerization in Asia and the Pacific			

PROGRAMME: TRANSPORT I (TRANSPORT, COMMUNICATIONS AND TOURISM)	*Resource requirements (1990-1991)*		
	RB (w/m)	*XB (w/m)*	*XB funds (thousands of US dollars)*
Programme total:	168	40	2 415.0
Subprogramme 1: ***General transport planning and facilitation of international traffic***	24	0	185.0
Programme elements:			
1.1 *Strategies, policies and planning for transport development**	24	0	185.0

Output:

(i) (a) Substantive servicing of the Committee on Shipping, Transport and Communications (fourth quarter, 1990); (b) Substantive servicing of the meeting of senior government representatives responsible for the Transport and Communications Decade for Asia and the Pacific, 1985-1994 (fourth quarter, 1990); (c) Substantive servicing of the inter-agency meeting for the Transport and Communications Decade for Asia and the Pacific, 1985-1994 (fourth quarter, 1990)

(ii) Expert group meeting on urban transport planning (third quarter, 1990) (intermediate activity)

(iii) Report to the Committee on Shipping, Transport and Communications on the mid-term review of the implementation of the programme for the Transport and Communications Decade (fourth quarter, 1990)

(iv) Technical publications: (a) Transport and Communications Bulletin for Asia and the Pacific (third quarter, 1991); (b) Review of developments in transport and communications in the ESCAP region (second quarter, 1991); (c) Study on the cost benefit of and problems following the introduction of high-cube containers in developing countries of the ESCAP region (1991)

(v) Technical assistance: Promotion of integrated transport and urban and public transport

Subprogramme 2: ***Development of highways and highway transport***	24	0	318.0
Programme elements:			
2.1 *Development of roads, road transport and rational use of energy in road transport**	24	0	318.0

Output:

(i) Substantive servicing of an intergovernmental meeting of highway experts (third quarter, 1990)

(ii) Technical publication: Survey of roads and road transport statistics in the ESCAP region (fourth quarter, 1990)

(iii) Technical assistance: (a) Promotion of technology transfer and skill development in the field of roads and road transport; (b) Promotion of regional and international road transport; (c) Promotion of the utilization of compressed natural gas in urban transport

Subprogramme 3: ***Development of railways and railway transport***	48	0	262.0
Programme elements:			
3.1 *Railway development planning and manpower development**	24	0	635.0

PROGRAMME: TRANSPORT I (TRANSPORT, COMMUNICATIONS AND TOURISM) *(continued)*	*Resource requirements (1990-1991)*		
	RB (w/m)	*XB (w/m)*	*XB funds (thousands of US dollars)*
Output:			
(i) (a) Substantive servicing of intergovernmental railway group meeting (fourth quarter, 1991); (b) Substantive servicing of railway research co-ordination group meeting (fourth quarter, 1991)			
(ii) Report to the Committee on Shipping, Transport and Communications on strengthening of intraregional and interregional transport linkages (fourth quarter, 1990)			
(iii) Technical publications: (a) Railway statistics and information for Asia and the Pacific (third quarter, 1991); (b) Joint studies with the Asia-Pacific Railway Co-operation Group (third quarters, 1990 and 1991)			
(iv) Technical assistance: (a) Promotion of intraregional and interregional transport linkages; (b) Strengthening of capabilities of developing countries in railway manpower development; (c) Development of co-operation through the Asia-Pacific Railway Co-operation Group			
3.2 *Modernization of railway systems**	24	0	327.0
Output:			
(i) (a) Report to the Committee on Shipping, Transport and Communications on modernization of railway systems (fourth quarter, 1990); (b) Report to the Committee on Shipping, Transport and Communications on demonstration project on a cost-effective railway signalling and telecommunication system (fourth quarter, 1990)			
(ii) Technical publications: (a) Review of modern railway technology (fourth quarter, 1991); (b) Study on development of training curricula and programmes for computerized railway operation in the ESCAP region (fourth quarter, 1990); (c) Study on development of training curricula and programmes for electrified railway systems in the ESCAP region (fourth quarter, 1990)			
(iii) Technical assistance: (a) Assistance in development of a cost-effective railway signalling and telecommunication system; (b) Assistance in modernization of railways			
Subprogramme 4: ***Development of air cargo transport***	24	0	150.0
Programme elements:			
4.1 *Promotion of air transport in socio-economic development*	24	0	150.0
Output:			
(i) Technical publication: Guidelines on the role of air cargo transport in multimodal transport systems [postponed from 1988-1989]			
(ii) Technical assistance: Development of air transport with special reference to the land-locked and the Pacific island countries			
Subprogramme 5: ***Development of communications infrastructure***	24	0	200.0
Programme elements:			
5.1 *Promotion of telecommunications and postal services development**	24	0	200.0

PROGRAMME: TRANSPORT I (TRANSPORT, COMMUNICATIONS AND TOURISM) *(continued)*

	Resource requirements (1990-1991)		
	RB (w/m)	*XB (w/m)*	*XB funds (thousands of US dollars)*
Output:			
(i) Technical publication: Study on telecommunications development in the ESCAP region (third quarter, 1990)			
(ii) Technical assistance: Improvement of telecommunications and postal services, with special emphasis on rural areas			
Subprogramme 6: ***Development of tourism***	24	40	600.0
Programme elements:			
6.1 *Promotion of co-ordinated tourism development*	24	40	600.0
Output:			
(i) Technical publications: (a) ESCAP Tourism Review (second quarters, 1990 and 1991); (b) Study on the economic aspects of tourism (third quarter, 1991); (c) Study on the environmental aspects of tourism (first quarter, 1991)			
(ii) Technical assistance: (a) Strengthening of co-ordinated tourism development; (b) Manpower development in tourism; (c) Assistance in securing greater economic benefits from tourism			

PROGRAMME: TRANSPORT II (SHIPPING, PORTS AND INLAND WATERWAYS)	Resource requirements (1990-1991)		
	RB (w/m)	*XB (w/m)*	*XB funds (thousands of US dollars)*
Programme total:	216	96	5 047.0
Subprogramme 1: ***Development of maritime policy and institutions***	60	24	1 040.0
Programme elements:			
1.1 *Maritime policy**	30	24	147.0
Output:			
(i) Report to the Committee on Shipping, Transport and Communications on the activities and developments in the field of maritime policy and institutions in the ESCAP region (fourth quarter, 1990)			
(ii) Technical assistance: Development of maritime policies in co-ordination with regional, subregional and national maritime development organizations			
1.2 *Maritime institutions**	30	0	893.0
Output:			
(i) Technical publications: (a) Guidelines for port-related legislation (second quarter, 1991); (b) Guidelines for Maritime Legislation, third revised edition (third quarter, 1991); (c) Guidelines for maritime industry labour legislation (third quarter, 1991)			
(ii) Technical assistance: Development of maritime institutions and of tools and instruments relevant to the planning and implementation of programmes and investments for development of the maritime sector, and for enhancing the capabilities in the use of such tools and instruments			
Subprogramme 2: ***Development of merchant marine and shipping services***	24	0	112.0
Programme elements			
2.1 *Development and promotion of shipping services, sea transport systems and merchant marines services**	24	0	112.0
Output:			
(i) Report to the Committee on Shipping, Transport and Communications on developments in the fields of sea transport systems, shipping services and merchant marines (fourth quarter, 1990)			
(ii) Technical assistance: (a) Promotion of modern transport systems and techniques, including training in relevant technologies; (b) Development of management capabilities in planning, operations and technical upkeep of shipping, including domestic and inter-island shipping; (c) Promotion of co-operation in shipping			
Subprogramme 3: ***Port development***	48	48	1 723.0
Programme elements:			
3.1 *Port management**	24	24	1 284.0

PROGRAMME: TRANSPORT II (SHIPPING, PORTS AND INLAND WATERWAYS) *(continued)*

	Resource requirements (1990-1991)		
	RB (w/m)	*XB (w/m)*	*XB funds (thousands of US dollars)*
Output:			
(i) (a) Report to the Committee on Shipping, Transport and Communications on the development and implementation of management tools and TCDC activities to improve port efficiency (fourth quarter, 1990); (b) Report to the Committee on Shipping, Transport and Communications on employment issues in the maritime sector and the impact of new technologies (fourth quarter, 1990)			
(ii) Technical publications: (a) Manual and computer software on port management models and operationally related matters (third quarter, 1991); (b) Revision of the port management information system (PORTMIS) [postponed from 1988-1989]; (c) ESCAP port computer handbook [postponed from 1988-1989]			
(iii) Technical assistance: Promotion of co-operation between chief executives of port authorities through meetings			
3.2 *Port planning, construction and operations*	24	24	439.0
Output:			
(i) Report to the Committee on Shipping, Transport and Communications on port development in the ESCAP region (fourth quarter, 1990)			
(ii) Technical publications: (a) Port performance comparators (second quarter, 1991); (b) Port statistical review [postponed from 1988-1989]			
(iii) Technical assistance: (a) Production and dissemination of special studies requested by Governments on port development issues; (b) Development and provision of a programme of assistance on port planning, construction and operations			
Subprogramme 4: ***Development of inland water transport***	48	24	1 840.0
Programme elements:			
4.1 *Development of management and operation of inland waterways, fleet, terminals and dredging**	48	24	1 840.0
Output:			
(i) (a) Report to the Committee on Shipping, Transport and Communications on the viability and cost-effectiveness of establishing a regional inland water transport centre in Bangladesh and of the alternatives of strengthening the secretariat or using a network approach (fourth quarter, 1990); (b) Report to the Committee on Shipping, Transport and Communications on the programme of activities and developments in inland water transport and dredging (fourth quarter, 1990)			
(ii) Technical publication: (a) Methods of determination of standard high- and low-water levels (fourth quarter, 1991); (b) Guidelines for conversion of dumb barges to push-towing (third quarter, 1991); (c) Audio-visual presentation on inland water transport [postponed from 1988-1989]; (d) Guidelines for the design of navigation canals [postponed from 1988-1989]; (e) Standard designs and technical specifications for river coasters [postponed from 1988-1989]			
(iii) Technical assistance: (a) Production of an audio-visual programme on inland water transport; (b) Development of inland water transport and upgrading of dredging capability, through meetings and advisory services			
Subprogramme 5: ***Shippers' organizations and co-operation***	36	0	332.0
Programme elements:			

PROGRAMME: TRANSPORT II (SHIPPING, PORTS AND INLAND WATERWAYS) *(continued)*	*Resource requirements (1990-1991)*		
	RB (w/m)	*XB (w/m)*	*XB funds (thousands of US dollars)*
5.1 *Development of ship users**	36	0	332.0

Output:

(i) (a) Report to the Committee on Shipping, Transport and Communications on the development of maritime education and training for ship users (fourth quarter, 1990); (b) Report to the Committee on Shipping, Transport and Communications on the ship users' co-operation project (fourth quarter, 1990)

(ii) Technical publications: (a) Study on the establishment and management of a freight booking centre [postponed from 1988-1989]; (b) Manual on freight forwarding [postponed from 1988-1989]

(iii) Technical assistance: (a) Promotion of co-operation between chief executives of national freight forwarders' associations and between chief executives of national shippers' councils; (b) Development of ship users at the regional, subregional and national levels

PROGRAMME: SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT	Resource requirements (1990-1991)		
	RB (w/m)	*XB (w/m)*	*XB funds (thousands of US dollars)*
Programme total:	216	48	2 956.0
Subprogramme 1: ***Popular participation***	84	48	1 283.0
Programme elements:			
1.1 *Participation of women in development**	32	0	563.0

Output:

(i) Report to the Committee on Population and Social Development on legal literacy among women in Asia and the Pacific (third quarter, 1990)

(ii) Technical publications: (a) Guidelines on integrating women's concerns in development planning in Asia and the Pacific (first quarter, 1990); (b) Training manual on the management of women's information centres (first quarter, 1991); (c) Training manual on the technical processing of information concerning women (first quarter, 1991); (d) *WINAP Newsletter* (second and fourth quarters, 1990 and 1991)

(iii) Technical assistance: (a) Promotion of legal literacy among women, through the preparation of studies on the legal status of women and the organization of national workshops and literacy campaigns; (b) Promotion of co-operation between government agencies and non-governmental organizations in the delivery of social services for women, through the preparation of studies and the organization of meetings; (c) Strengthening national information systems on women in development through the preparation and dissemination of directories, organization of training workshops and the provision of advisory services; (d) Assistance in integrating women's concerns in development planning

1.2 *Participation of youth in development*	28	0	400.0

Output:

(i) Report to the Committee on Population and Social Development on policies concerning youth and human resources development (third quarter, 1990)

(ii) Technical publications: (a) Monograph on adolescence and crime prevention (third quarter, 1990); (b) Study on the social aspects of unemployment among youth (fourth quarter, 1991); (c) Guidelines on youth participation in environmentally sustainable development (third quarter, 1990); (d) Momentum: a youth development information publication (second and fourth quarters, 1990 and 1991)

(iii) Technical assistance: Advisory services to Governments on policies and programmes to promote participation of youth in development

(iv) Technical assistance: (a) Strengthening of participation of youth in development, through seminars and workshops and preparation of a compendium on peer group training approaches; (b) Analysis of critical issues facing youth in development, including the impact of technology on the working life of young people and the protection of young women workers in industrial and service sectors, through studies and meetings

1.3 *Participation of disabled persons and the elderly in development*	24	24	320.0

Output:

(i) (a) Report to the Committee on Population and Social Development on a regional support services network for disabled persons (third quarter, 1990); (b) Report to the Committee on Population and Social Development on policies and programmes to enhance the participation of the elderly in development (third quarter, 1990)

(ii) *Ad hoc* expert group meeting to review and appraise the achievements of the United Nations Decade of Disabled Persons (third quarter, 1991) (intermediate activity)

	Resource requirements (1990-1991)		
	RB (w/m)	*XB (w/m)*	*XB funds (thousands of US dollars)*
(iii) Technical publication: Directory of national focal points and experts on disability in the ESCAP region (fourth quarter, 1990)			
(iv) Technical assistance: (a) Enhancement of disability policies and programmes through the preparation of guidelines and the organization of meetings focusing on the self-help capabilities of disabled persons; (b) Promotion of national policies and programmes for the integration of the elderly in development through the preparation of studies and guidelines, and the organization of meetings			
Subprogramme 2: ***Social development policies and co-ordination***	54	0	619.0
Programme elements:			
2.1 *Promotion of national policy and programme responses to social development issues**	28	0	219.0
Output:			
(i) (a) Substantive servicing of a session of the Committee on Population and Social Development (fourth quarter, 1990); (b) Substantive servicing of the meeting of senior officials on a regional programme of action in support of education for all (fourth quarter, 1990)			
(ii) (a) Report to the Commission on social aspects of rural development (fourth quarter, 1990); (b) Report to the Commission on strengthening of co-operation between government agencies and non-governmental organizations in promoting social development (fourth quarter, 1991); (c) Report to the Commission on regional support to the World Conference on Education for All - Meeting Basic Learning Needs (second quarter, 1990)			
(iii) Technical publications: (a) Study on the changing role of the family as a social institution in development (second quarter, 1991); (b) Social Development Newsletter (first, second and third quarters, 1990 and 1991); (c) Study on a regional programme of action in support of education for all (third quarter, 1990)			
(iv) Technical assistance: (a) Promotion of integrated socio-economic development; (b) Prevention of crime and criminal justice policies; (c) Assistance to Governments in the planning and delivery of social services and strengthening of the partnership between Governments and non-governmental organizations			
2.2 *Formulation of a regional social development strategy**	26	0	400.0
Output:			
(i) (a) Report to the Committee on Population and Social Development on preparations for the formulation of a regional social development strategy (third quarter, 1990); (b) Report to the Commission on preparations for the formulation of a regional social development strategy (first quarter, 1990)			
(ii) (a) Substantive servicing of an intergovernmental meeting on a regional social development strategy (second quarter, 1991); (b) Substantive servicing of the Fourth Asian and Pacific Ministerial Conference on Social Welfare and Social Development (1991)			
(iii) Technical publication: Study on major issues relating to a regional social development strategy (first quarter, 1991)			
(iv) Technical assistance: Assistance to Governments on social development policy and planning approaches through organization of meetings and conduct of studies			
Subprogramme 3: ***Health and development***	24	0	343.0
Programme elements:			

PROGRAMME: SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT *(continued)*	*Resource requirements (1990-1991)*		
	RB (w/m)	*XB (w/m)*	*XB funds (thousands of US dollars)*
3.1 *Strengthening of national programmes on health and development*	24	0	343.0

Output:

(i) (a) Report to the Committee on Population and Social Development on issues related to demand aspects of drug abuse control, and on the prevention of AIDS (third quarter, 1990); (b) Report to the Commission on main issues in drug abuse demand control (first quarter, 1990)

(ii) Technical assistance: (a) Strengthening of national drug abuse prevention and rehabilitation programmes, through the preparation of studies and guidelines and the organization of workshops; (b) Establishment of and support to a regional network of national agencies concerned with demand aspects of drug abuse control, focusing on the development of a regional information base; (c) Assistance to Governments on policies and programmes concerning demand aspects of drug abuse control

Subprogramme 4: ***Facilitation of human resources development***	54	24	711.0
Programme elements:			
4.1 *Facilitation and monitoring of the implementation of the Jakarta Plan of Action on Human Resources Development in the ESCAP Region**	26	24	341.0

Output:

(i) Report to the Commission on the implementation of the Jakarta Plan of Action on Human Resources Development in the ESCAP Region (first quarter, 1991)

(ii) Annual award of an ESCAP prize for accomplishment in the field of human resources development (1991)

(iii) Technical assistance: Advisory services to Governments to support and monitor the implementation of the Jakarta Plan of Action

(iv) Technical assistance: (a) Promotion of public awareness of human resources development, through the preparation and dissemination of information materials; (b) Establishment of a regional network of national mechanisms for implementation of the Jakarta Plan of Action

4.2 *Promotion of policies and programmes for human resources development in the ESCAP region**	28	0	370.0

Output:

(i) Report to the Committee on Population and Social Development on approaches to the integration of human resources development concerns into development planning (third quarter, 1990)

(ii) Technical publications: (a) Guidelines on methodological approaches to the conduct of a regional survey on the quality of life as an aspect of human resources development (second quarter, 1990); (b) Study on the socio-cultural impact of human resources development (second quarter, 1991)

(iii) Technical assistance: (a) Promotion of integrated human resources development policies and programmes through the conduct of studies and the organization of meetings and training programmes; (b) Assistance to Governments in the conduct of a survey of the quality of life through the conduct of studies and the organization of meetings

PROGRAMME: TRANSNATIONAL CORPORATIONS	Resource requirements (1990-1991)		
	RB (w/m)	*XB (w/m)*	*XB funds (thousands of US dollars)*
Programme total:	48	0	400.0
Subprogramme 1: ***Enhancing the contribution of transnational corporations to development and minimizing any negative effects of their operations****	24	0	300.0
Programme elements:			
1.1 *Research on transnational corporations in the region*	24	0	300.0

Output:

(i) Reports to the Commission on the role and impact of TNCs in priority sectors in the ESCAP region as identified by the Commission on Transnational Corporations (one, 1990; one, 1991)

(ii) Report to the Committee on Trade on main issues in the field of transnational corporations (1990)

(iii) Technical publications: (a) Studies on specific issues regarding the activities of TNCs (one, 1990; one, 1991); (b) Studies on TNC activities in least developed and developing island countries (one, 1990; one, 1991); (c) Studies on TNCs in selected industries (one, 1990; one, 1991); (d) Studies on the impact of TNCs on the economic and social development process (one, 1990; one, 1991)

Subprogramme 2: ***Strengthening the capability of host developing countries in dealing with matters related to transnational corporations***	24	0	100.0
Programme elements:			
2.1 *Provision of training, advisory and information services to member Governments*	24	0	100.0

Output:

(i) Reports to the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific on the provision of advisory, training and information services in the countries of the ESCAP region (one, 1990; one, 1991)

(ii) Servicing the annual session of the Commission on Transnational Corporations (one, 1990; one, 1991)

(iii) Substantive servicing of the twenty-seventh session of the Committee on Trade (1990)

(iv) Technical publication: Asia-Pacific TNC Review (one, 1990; one, 1991)

(v) Technical assistance: Workshop/seminar on issues relating to transnational corporations (1990)

Appendix

Programme	*Regional advisers under section 24 of the Secretary-General's proposed programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991*
Development issues and policies	Regional adviser on development economics and planning
International trade and development finance	1. Regional adviser on development policies for raw materials and commodities
	2. Regional adviser on trade policies, negotiations and trade promotion
Natural resources	1. Regional adviser on energy
	2. Regional adviser on water resources
Science and technology	Regional adviser on technology transfer and development
Statistics	Regional adviser on national accounts
Transport II (Shipping, ports and inland waterways)	Regional adviser on small ports and harbours development
Social development	1. Regional adviser on social development, planning and training
	2. Regional adviser on women in development

Annex II

STATEMENT OF PROGRAMME BUDGET IMPLICATIONS OF ACTIONS AND PROPOSALS OF THE COMMISSION

None of the resolutions adopted at the forty-sixth session of the Commission have financial implications for the regular budget of the United Nations.

Annex III

MEETINGS OF SUBSIDIARY BODIES HELD DURING THE PERIOD UNDER REVIEW

Subsidiary body and officers		*Session*	*Document symbol of report* [a]
Committee on Development Planning and Statistics		First session Bangkok 24-28 July 1989	E/ESCAP/694 and Corr.1
Chairman:	Majid Jamshidi (Islamic Republic of Iran)		
Vice-Chairmen:	Wilfredo G. Nuqui (Philippines)		
	C.C. Greenfield (Hong Kong)		
Rapporteur:	P.K.W. Digby (Vanuatu)		
Committee on Industry, Technology and Human Settlements		First session Bangkok 11-15 September 1989	E/ESCAP/695 and Corr.1
Chairman:	Sivavong Changkasiri (Thailand)		
Vice-Chairmen:	K.V. Swaminathan (India)		
	Abdul Azam (Fiji)		
Rapporteur:	Alias bin Ali (Malaysia)		
Committee on Natural Resources		Fifteenth session Bangkok 9-13 October 1989	E/ESCAP/696 and Corr.1
Chairman:	Adjat Sudradjat (Indonesia)		
Vice-Chairmen:	Pham Quoc Tuong (Viet Nam)		
	Flordeliza Andres (Philippines)		
Rapporteur:	M.J. Terman (United States of America)		
Committee on Agriculture, Rural Development and the Environment)		First session Bangkok 13-17 November 1989	E/ESCAP/704
Chairman:	U. Sapukotana (Sri Lanka)		
Vice-Chairmen:	Zhang Shixian (China)		
	Dudung Abdul Adjid (Indonesia)		
Rapporteur:	Johnson P. Mercader (Philippines)		

[a] Copies of reports that are not available through normal distribution channels at United Nations Headquarters or at Geneva may be obtained from the Regional Commissions New York Office at United Nations Headquarters.

Annex IV

PUBLICATIONS AND DOCUMENTS ISSUED BY THE COMMISSION

A. Sales publications

Title	*United Nations publication sales number*
Atlas of Mineral Resources of the ESCAP Region Vol. 5, Sri Lanka	E.89.II.F.14
Background Issues of Oil Supply Trading in Pacific Island Countries (Energy Resources Development Series, No. 32)	E.90.II.F.3
Development and Conservation of Ground-water Resources and Water-related Natural Disasters and their Mitigation in Selected Least Developed Countries and Developing Island Countries in the ESCAP Region (Water Resources Series, No. 66)	E.89.II.F.18
Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific 1989	E.90.II.F.4
Economic Bulletin for Asia and the Pacific Vol. XXXIX, No. 1, June 1988	E.90.II.F.2
Electric Power in Asia and the Pacific 1985 and 1986	E.89.II.F.7
ESCAP Atlas of Stratigraphy VIII. Afghanistan, Australia (Mineral Resources Development Series, No. 58)	E.90.II.F.5
Foreign Trade Statistics of Asia and the Pacific, 1983-1987	E/F.89.II.F.15
Guidelines for the Preparation of National Master Water Plans (Water Resources Series, No. 65)	E.89.II.F.17
Industrial Development News for Asia and the Pacific, No. 17	E.89.II.F.11
Small Industry Bulletin for Asia and the Pacific, No. 23 No. 24	E.89.II.F.9 E.90.II.F.7
Statistical Indicators for Asia and the Pacific Vol. XIX, No. 1, March 1989 Vol. XIX, No. 2, June 1989 Vol. XIX, No. 3, September 1989 Vol. XIX, No. 4, December 1989 Vol. XX, No. 1, March 1990	 E.89.II.F.6 E.89.II.F.10 E.89.II.F.13 E.89.II.F.19 E.90.II.F.6
Statistical Yearbook for Asia and the Pacific 1989	E/F.90.II.F.1
The Triennial Review of Mineral Development Activities in the ESCAP Region, 1985-1987 (Mineral Resources Development Series, No. 57)	E.89.II.F.16
Transport and Communications Bulletin for Asia and the Pacific, No. 60	E.89.II.F.8
Water Resources Development in Asia and the Pacific: Dam Safety Evaluation and Monitoring, Water Tariffs and Rain-water Harvesting (Water Resources Series, No. 63)	E.89.II.F.5
Water Use Statistics in the Long-term Planning of Water Resources Development (Water Resources Series, No. 64)	E.89.II.F.12

B. Documents submitted to the Commission

Symbol	*Title*	*Agenda item*
E/ESCAP/694 and Corr.1	Report of the Committee on Development Planning and Statistics on its first session	6 (a)
E/ESCAP/695 and Corr.1	Report of the Committee on Industry, Technology and Human Settlements	6 (a)
E/ESCAP/696 and Corr.1	Report of the Committee on Natural Resources and Energy on its fifteenth session	6 (a)
E/ESCAP/697 and Corr.1	Social aspects of human resources development: the quality of life dimension	6 (a)
E/ESCAP/698 and Corr.1 and Add.1	Report on progress in the implementation of Commission resolution 45/3 on regional support for International Literacy Year	6 (a)
E/ESCAP/699	Report on progress in the implementation of Commission resolution 45/1 on a regional social development strategy towards the year 2000 and beyond	6 (a)
E/ESCAP/700	Work of the Commission since the forty-fifth session	4 (a)
E/ESCAP/701	Towards a new international development strategy: emerging concerns and development priorities in the Asian and Pacific region in the 1990s	4 (b)
E/ESCAP/702	Report on the secretariat's activities in support of the implementation in the ESCAP region of the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries	4 (c)
E/ESCAP/703 and Corr.1 and 2	Challenges and opportunities of restructuring the developing ESCAP economies in the 1990s, with special reference to regional economic co-operation	5
E/ESCAP/704	Report of the Committee on Agriculture, Rural Development and the Environment	6 (a)
E/ESCAP/705	Agro-industrial development as a strategy for poverty alleviation in the rural areas and selected issues in the field of agriculture and rural development	6 (a)
E/ESCAP/706	Issues of major concern to the Meeting of Ministers of Industry and Technology	6 (a)
E/ESCAP/707	*Ad hoc* intergovernmental meeting on human settlements in 1991	6 (a)
E/ESCAP/708	Implications of trade for sustainable development of the ESCAP region	6 (a)
E/ESCAP/709	Main issues in the fields of natural resources, energy and marine affairs	6 (a)
E/ESCAP/710	Management issues in statistics and computerization	6 (a)
E/ESCAP/711	Main issues in drug abuse demand control	6 (a)
E/ESCAP/712 and Corr.1	Contemporary developments in international trade at the global and regional levels and implications for trade prospects of developing countries of the ESCAP region	6 (a)
E/ESCAP/713	Main issues in the field of tourism	6 (a)
E/ESCAP/714	The regional maritime strategy study	6 (a)
E/ESCAP/715	The Asian Highway network	6 (a)
E/ESCAP/716	The role of population information in response to changing population policies and programmes for the 1990s	6 (a)

Symbol	*Title*	*Agenda item*
E/ESCAP/717	Main issues in the field of transnational corporations	6 (a)
E/ESCAP/718	Progress report on formulation and implementation of shelter strategies towards the year 2000	6 (b)
E/ESCAP/719	Mid-term review of the Transport and Communications Decade for Asia and the Pacific, 1985-1994: an interim report	6 (c)
E/ESCAP/720 and Corr.1	Report on administrative and financial issues related to the regional institutions	6 (d)
E/ESCAP/721 and Corr.1	Report on the Regional Co-ordination Centre for Research and Development of Coarse Grains, Pulses, Roots and Tuber Crops in the Humid Tropics of Asia and the Pacific	6 (d)
E/ESCAP/722	Report on the Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific	6 (d)
E/ESCAP/723	Report on the Asian and Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology	6 (d)
E/ESCAP/724	Regional Energy Development Programme: project progress report	6 (d)
E/ESCAP/725	Pacific Energy Development Programme: project progress report	6 (d)
E/ESCAP/726	Report on the Regional Network for Agricultural Machinery	6 (d)
E/ESCAP/727	Report of the Asian and Pacific Development Centre	6 (d)
E/ESCAP/728	Report of the Committee for Co-ordination of Joint Prospecting for Mineral Resources in Asian Offshore Areas	6 (d)
E/ESCAP/729	Report of the Interim Committee for Co-ordination of Investigations of the Lower Mekong Basin, 1989	6 (d)
E/ESCAP/730	Report of the Typhoon Committee	6 (d)
E/ESCAP/731 and Corr.1	Draft medium-term plan, 1992-1997	7
E/ESCAP/732 and Corr.1-3	Proposed programme changes for 1990-1991	7
E/ESCAP/733	Tentative calendar of meetings, 1990/91	7 (b)
E/ESCAP/734 and Corr.1	Report on the implementation of the programme of work, 1988-1989	7 (c)
E/ESCAP/735	Economic and technical co-operation among developing countries	8
E/ESCAP/736 and Add.1	Special problems faced by the Pacific island countries: the Commission's activities in the Pacific	9
E/ESCAP/737	Review of the conference structure of the Commission	10
E/ESCAP/738 and Corr.1 and 2	Mobilization of extrabudgetary resources	11
E/ESCAP/739	Technical co-operation activities in Asia and the Pacific in 1989: information papers presented by the United Nations Development Programme and the United Nations Department of Technical Co-operation for Development	11
E/ESCAP/740 and Add.1	Report of the Advisory Committee of Permanent Representatives and Other Representatives Designated by Members of the Commission	12

Symbol	*Title*	*Agenda item*
E/ESCAP/741	Date, venue and any other subject pertaining to the forty-seventh session of the Commission	13
E/ESCAP/742	Report on paragraph 157 of the annual report of the Commission on its forty-fifth session	4
E/ESCAP/743	Preparations for the Ministerial-level Conference on the Environment in Asia and the Pacific	6 (a)
E/ESCAP/744	Interregional co-operation in trade facilitation	6 (a)
E/ESCAP/745	Resolutions and decisions bearing on the work of the Commission adopted by the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council	7
E/ESCAP/746	Fourth Asian and Pacific Population Conference, 1992	6 (a)
E/ESCAP/747	Theme topic for the forty-seventh session of the Commission: industrial restructuring in Asia and the Pacific	13

Annex V

TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

As adopted by the Economic and Social Council at its fourth session, amended by the Council at subsequent sessions, and revised in consequence of various General Assembly resolutions.

The Economic and social Council,

Having considered General Assembly resolution 46(I) of 11 December 1946, in which the General Assembly "recommends that, in order to give effective aid to the countries devastated by war, the Economic and Social Council, at its next session, give prompt and favourable consideration to the establishment of ... an Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East", and

Having noted the report of the Working Group for Asia and the Far East of the Temporary Sub-Commission on Economic Reconstruction of Devastated Areas,

Establishes an Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific with terms of reference as follows:

1. The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, acting within the framework of the policies of the United Nations and subject to the general supervision of the Council, shall, provided that the Commission takes no action in respect of any country without the agreement of the Government of that country:

(a) Initiate and participate in measures for facilitating concerted action for the economic reconstruction and development of Asia and the Pacific, for raising the level of economic activity in Asia and the Pacific and for maintaining and strengthening the economic relations of these areas both among themselves and with other countries of the world;

(b) Make or sponsor such investigations and studies of economic and technological problems and developments within territories of Asia and the Pacific as the Commission deems appropriate;

(c) Undertake or sponsor the collection, evaluation and dissemination of such economic, technological and statistical information as the Commission deems appropriate;

(d) Perform such advisory services, within the available resources of its secretariat, as the countries of the region may desire, provided that such services do not overlap with those rendered by the specialized agenices or the United Nations Technical Assistance Administration;

(e) Assist the Economic and Social Council, at its request, in discharging its functions within the region in connection with any economic problems, including problems in the field of technical assistance;

(f) In carry out the above functions, deal, as appropriate, with the social aspects of economic development and the interrelationship of the economic and social factors.

2. The territories of Asia and the Pacific referred to in paragraph 1 shall include Afghanistan, Australia, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, China, the Cook Islands, Fiji, Guam, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Japan, Kiribati, Korea, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Maldives Mongolia, Myanmar, Nauru, Nepal, New Zealand, Niue, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, Samoa, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Tonga, the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, Tuvalu, Vanuatu and Viet Nam.

3. The members of the Commission shall consist of Afghanistan, Australia, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, China, Fiji, France, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Japan, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Maldives, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nauru, Nepal, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, the Republic of Korea, Samoa, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Tonga, Tuvalu, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America, Vanuatu and Viet Nam, provided that any State in the area which may hereafter become a Member of the United Nations shall be thereupon admitted as a member of the Commission.

4. The associate members shall include the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, the Cook Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia, Guam, Hong Kong, Kiribati, Niue, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, the Republic of Palau and the Territory of American Samoa.

5. Any territory, part or group of terriroties within the geographical scope of the Commission as defined in paragraph 2 may, on presentation of its application to the Commission by the member responsible for the international relations of such territory, part or group of territories, be admitted by the Commission as an associate member of the Commission. If it has become responsible for its own international relations, such territory, part or group of territories may be admitted as an assosicate member of the Commission on itself presenting its application to the Commission.

6. Representatives of associate members shall be entitled to participate without vote in all meetings of the Commission, whether sitting as Commission or as Committee of the Whole.

7. Representatives of associate members shall be eligible to be appointed as members of any committee, or other subordinate body, which may be set up by the Commission and shall be eligible to vote and hold office in such body.

8. The Commission is empowered to make recommendations on any matters within its competence directly to the Governments of members or associate members concerned, Governments admitted in consultative capacity, and the specialized agencies concerned. The Commission shall submit for the Council's prior consideration any of its proposals of activities that would have important effects on the economy of the world as a whole.

9. The Commission shall invite any Member of the United Nations not a member of the Commission to participate in a consultative capacity in its consideration of any matter of particular concern to that non-member.

10. The Commission shall invite representatives of specialized agencies and may invite representatives of any intergovernmental organizations to participate in a consultative capacity in its consideration of any matter of particular concern to that agency or organization following the practice of the Economic and Social Council.

11. The Commission shall make arrangements for consultation with non-governmental organizations which have been granted consultative status by the Economic and Social Council, in accordance with the principles approved by the Council for this purpose and contained in Council resolution 1296(XLIV).

12. The Commission shall take measures to ensure that the necessary liaison is maintained with other organs of the United Nations and with the specialized agenices. The Commission shall establish appropriate liaison and co-operation with other regional economic commissions in accordance with the resolutions and directives of the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly.

13. The Commission may, after discussion with any specialized agency functioning in the same general field, and with the approval of the Council, establish such subsidiary bodies as it deems appropriate, for facilitating the carrying out of its responsibilities.

14. The Commission shall adopt its own rules of procedure, including the method of selecting its Chairman.

15. The Commission shall submit to the Council a full report on its activities and plans, including those of any subsidiary bodies, once a year.

16. The administrative budget of the Commission shall be financed from the funds of the United Nations.

17. The Secretary-General of the United Nations shall appoint the staff of the Commission, which shall form part of the Secretariat of the United Nations.

18. The headquarters of the Commission shall be located at Bangkok, Thailand.

19. The Council shall, from time to time, make special reviews of the work of the Commission.

Annex VI

RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

As drawn up at the first session, confirmed and adopted at the second session, and amended at subsequent sessions of the Commission.

Chapter I

SESSIONS

Rule 1

The following principles shall apply as regards date and place for the sessions of the Commission:

(a) The Commission shall at each session recommend the date and place for its next session subject to the approval of the Council and in consultation with the Secretary-General. Sessions of the Commission shall also be held within forty-five days of the communication to the Executive Secretary of a request to that effect by the Economic and Social Council, and, in that case, the Secretary-General shall establish the place of such sessions in consultation with the Chairman of the Commission;

(b) In special cases the date and place of the session may be altered by the Secretary-General in consultation with the Chairman of the Commission and the Council's Interim Committee on Programme of Conferences. At the request of the majority of the members of the Commission, the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Chairman of the Commission and the Council's Interim Committee on Programme of Conferences, may also alter the date and place of the session;

(c) Sessions shall ordinarily be held at the office of the United Nations in Asia and the Pacific. The Commission may recommend holding a particular session elsewhere.

Rule 2

The Executive Secretary shall, at least forty-two days before the commencement of a session, distribute a notice of the opening date of the session, together with three copies of the provisional agenda and of the basic documents relating to each item appearing on the provisional agenda. Distribution shall be similar to that under rule 49.

Rule 3

The Commission shall invite any Member of the United Nations not a member of the Commission to participate in a consultative capacity in its consideration of any matter of particular concern to that Member.

Chapter II

AGENDA

Rule 4

The provisional agenda for each session shall be drawn up by the Executive Secretary in consultation with the Chairman.

Rule 5

The provisional agenda for any session shall include:

(a) Items arising from previous sessions of the Commission;

(b) Items proposed by the Economic and Social Council;

(c) Items proposed by any member or associate member of the Commission;

(d) Items proposed by a specialized agency in accordance with the agreements of relationship concluded between the United Nations and such agencies;

(e) Items proposed by non-governmental organizations in category I, subject to the provisions of rule 6; and

(f) Any other items which the Chairman or the Executive Secretary sees fit to include.

Rule 6

Non-governmental organizations in category I may propose items on matters within their competence for the provisional agenda of the Commission, subject to the following conditions;

(a) An organization which intends to propose such an item shall inform the Executive Secretary at least sixty-three days before the commencement of the session, and before formally proposing an item shall give due consideration to any comments he may make;

(b) The proposal shall be formally submitted with the relevant basic documentation not less than forty-nine days before the commencement of the session. The item shall be included in the agenda of the Commission if it is adopted by a two-thirds majority of those present and voting.

Rule 7

The first item upon the provisional agenda for each session shall be the adoption of the agenda.

Rule 8

The Commission may amend the agenda at any time.

Chapter III

REPRESENTATION AND CREDENTIALS

Rule 9

Each member shall be represented on the Commission by an accredited representative.

Rule 10

A representative may be accompanied to the sessions of the Commission by alternate representatives and advisers and, when absent, he may be replaced by an alternate representative.

Rule 11

The credentials of each representative appointed to the Commission, together with a designation of alternate representatives, shall be submitted to the Executive Secretary without delay.

Rule 12

The Chairman and the two Vice-Chairmen shall examine the credentials and report upon them to the Commission.

Chapter IV

OFFICERS

Rule 13

The Commission shall, at its first meeting of each year, elect from among its representatives a Chairman and two Vice-Chairmen, designated as First and Second Vice-Chairmen, who shall hold office until their successors are elected. They shall be eligible for re-election.

Rule 14

If the Chairman is absent from a meeting, or any part thereof, the Vice-Chairman designated by the Chairman shall preside.

Rule 15

If the Chairman ceases to represent a member of the Commission, or is so incapacitated that he can no longer hold office, the First Vice-Chairman shall become Chairman for the unexpired portion of the term. If the First Vice-Chairman also ceases to represent a member of the Commission, or is so incapacitated that he can no longer hold office, the Second Vice-Chairman shall become Chairman for the unexpired portion of the term.

Rule 16

The Vice-Chairman acting as Chairman shall have the same powers and duties as the Chairman.

Rule 17

The Chairman, or the Vice-Chairman acting as Chairman, shall participate in the meetings of the Commission as such, and not as the representative of the member by whom he was accredited. The Commission shall admit an alternate representative to represent that member in the meetings of the Commission and to exercise its right to vote.

Chapter V

SECRETARIAT

Rule 18

The Executive Secretary shall act in that capacity at all meetings of the Commission and of its sub-commissions, other subsidiary bodies and committees. He may appoint another member of the staff to take his place at any meeting.

Rule 19

The Executive Secretary or his representative may at any meeting make either oral or written statements concerning any question under consideration.

Rule 20

The Executive Secretary shall direct the staff provided by the Secretary-General and required by the Commission, its sub-commissions, and any other subsidiary bodies and committees.

Rule 21

The Executive Secretary shall be responsible for the necessary arrangements being made for meetings.

Rule 22

The Executive Secretary in carrying out his functions shall act on behalf of the Secretary-General.

Rule 23

Before new proposals which involve expenditure from United Nations funds are approved by the Commission, the Executive Secretary shall prepare and circulate to members an estimate of that part of the cost involved in the proposals which could not be met out of the resources available to the secretariat. It shall be the duty of the Chairman to draw the attention of members to this estimate, and invite discussion on it before the proposals are approved.

Chapter VI

CONDUCT OF BUSINESS

Rule 24

A majority of the members of the Commission shall constitute a quorum.

Rule 25

In addition to exercising the powers conferred upon him elsewhere by these rules, the Chairman shall declare the opening and closing of each meeting of the Commission, shall direct the discussion, ensure the observance of these rules, and shall accord the right to speak, put questions to the vote, and announce decisions. The Chairman may also call a speaker to order if his remarks are not relevant to the subject under discussion.

Rule 26

During the discussion of any matter, a representative may raise a point of order. In this case, the Chairman shall immediately state his ruling. If it is challenged, the Chairman shall forthwith submit his ruling to the Commission for decision, and it shall stand unless overruled.

Rule 27

During the discussion of any matter, a representative may move the adjournment of the debate. Any such motion shall have priority. In addition to the proposer of the motion, one representative shall be allowed to speak in favour of, and one representative against, the motion.

Rule 28

A representative may at any time move the closure of the debate whether or not any other representative has signified his wish to speak. Not more than two representatives may be granted permission to speak against the closure.

Rule 29

The Chairman shall take the sense of the Commission on a motion for closure. If the Commission is in favour of the closure, the Chairman shall declare the debate closed.

Rule 30

The Commission may limit the time allowed to each speaker.

Rule 31

Draft resolutions, and substantial amendments or motions, shall be introduced in writing and handed to the Executive Secretary, who shall circulate copies to the representatives at least twenty-four hours before they are discussed and voted upon, unless the Commission decides otherwise.

Rule 32

Upon the request of any member, any motion and amendment thereto made by any speaker shall be given to the Chairman in writing and shall be read by him before any further speaker is called upon and also immediately before a vote is taken on such motion or amendment. The Chairman may direct that any motion or amendment be circulated to the members present before a vote is taken.

This rule shall not apply to formal motions such as one for closure or adjournment.

Rule 33

Principal motions and resolutions shall be put to the vote in the order of their submission unless the Commission decides otherwise.

Rule 34

When an amendment revises, adds to or deletes from a proposal, the amendment shall be put to the vote first, and, if it is adopted, the amended proposal shall then be put to the vote.

Rule 35

If two or more amendments are moved to a proposal, the Commission shall vote first on the amendment furthest removed in substance from the original proposal; then, if necessary, on the amendment next furthest removed; and so on, until all the amendments have been put to the vote.

Rule 36

The Commission may, at the request of a representative, decide to put a motion or resolution to the vote in parts. If this is done, the text resulting from the series of votes shall be put to the vote as a whole.

Chapter VII

VOTING

Rule 37

Each member of the Commission shall have one vote.

Rule 38

Except for the provision of rule 6(*b*), decisions of the Commission shall be made by a majority of the members present and voting.

Rule 39

The Commission shall take no action in respect of any country without the agreement of the Government of that country.

Rule 40

The Commission shall normally vote by a show of hands. If any representative requests a roll-call, a roll-call shall be taken in the English alphabetical order of the names of the members.

Rule 41

All elections shall be decided by secret ballot.

Rule 42

If a vote is equally divided upon matters other than elections, a second vote shall be taken at the next meeting. If this vote also results in equality, the proposal shall be regarded as rejected.

Rule 43

After the voting has commenced, no representative shall interrupt voting except on a point of order in connection with the actual conduct of the voting. Brief statements by members consisting solely of explanations of their votes may be permitted by the Chairman, if he deems it necessary, before the voting has commenced or after the voting has been completed.

Chapter VIII

LANGUAGES

Rule 44

Chinese, English, French and Russian shall be the working languages of the Commission.

Rule 45

Speeches made in one of the working languages shall be interpreted into the other working languages.

Chapter IX

RECORDS

Rule 46

Summary records of the meetings of the Commission shall be kept by the secretariat. They shall be sent as soon as possible to the representatives of members and to the representatives of any other government agency or organization which participated in the meeting concerned. Such representatives shall inform the secretariat, not later than seventy-two hours after the circulation of any summary record, of any changes they wish to have made. Any disagreement concerning such changes shall be referred to the Chairman, whose decision shall be final.

Rule 47

The corrected version of the summary records of public meetings shall be distributed as soon as possible in accordance with the usual practice of the United Nations. This shall include distribution to non-governmental organizations in categories I and II and those on the Roster, and on appropriate occasions to consultative members.

Rule 48

The corrected version of the summary records of private meetings shall be distributed as soon as possible to the members of the Commission, to any consultative member participating in the meeting concerned, and to the specialized agencies. They shall be distributed to all the Members of the United Nations if and when the Commission so decides.

Rule 49

As soon as possible, the text of all reports, resolutions, recommendations and other formal decisions made by the Commission, its sub-commissions or other subsidiary bodies and its committees shall be communicated to the members of the Commission, to the consultative members concerned, to all other Members of the United Nations, to the specialized agencies, and to the non-governmental organizations in categories I and II and those on the Roster.

Chapter X

PUBLICITY OF MEETINGS

Rule 50

The meetings of the Commission shall ordinarily be held in public. The Commission may decide that a particular meeting or meetings shall be held in private.

Chapter XI

CONSULTATIONS WITH SPECIALIZED AGENCIES AND THE INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY

Rule 51

1. Where an item proposed for the provisional agenda for a session contains a proposal for new activities to be undertaken by the United Nations relating to matters which are of direct concern to one or more specialized agencies or the International Atomic Energy Agency, the Executive Secretary shall enter into consultation with the agency or agencies concerned and report to the Commission on the means of achieving co-ordinated use of the resources of the respective agencies.

2. Where a proposal put forward in the course of a meeting for new activities to be undertaken by the United Nations relates to matters which are of direct concern to one or more specialized agencies or the International Atomic Energy Agency, the Executive Secretary shall, after such consultation as may be possible with the representatives at the meeting of the other agency or agencies concerned, draw the attention of the meeting to these implications of the proposal.

3. Before deciding on proposals referred to above, the Commission shall satisfy itself that adequate consultations have taken place with the agencies concerned.

Chapter XII

RELATIONS WITH NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

Rule 52

Non-governmental organizations in categories I and II may designate authorized representatives to sit as observers at public meetings of the Commission. Organizations on the Roster may have representatives present at such meetings which are concerned with matters within their field of competence.

Rule 53

Written statements relevant to the work of the Commission or its subsidiary bodies may be submitted by organizations in categories I and II on subjects for which these organizations have a special competence. Such statements shall be circulated by the Executive Secretary to the members and associate members of the Commission except those statements which have become obsolete - e.g. those dealing with matters already disposed of, and those which have already been circulated in some other form to members and associate members of the Commission or its subsidiary bodies.

Rule 54

The following conditions shall be observed regarding the submission and circulation of such written statements:

(a) The written statement shall be submitted in one of the official languages;

(b) It shall be submitted in sufficient time for appropriate consultation to take place between the Executive Secretary and the organization before circulation;

(c) The organization shall give due consideration to any comments which the Executive Secretary may make in the course of such consultation before transmitting the statement in final form;

(d) A written statement submitted by an organization in category I will be circulated in full if it does not exceed 2,000 words. Where a statement is in excess of 2,000 words, the organization shall submit a summary, which will be circulated, or shall supply sufficient copies of the full text in the working languages for distribution. A statement will also be circulated in full, however, upon the specific request of the Commission or of one of its subsidiary bodies;

(e) A written statement submitted by an organization in category II will be circulated in full if it does not exceed 1,500 words. Where a statement is in excess of 1,500 words, the organization shall submit a summary, which will be circulated, or shall supply sufficient copies of the full text in the working languages for distribution. A statement will also be circulated in full, however, upon the specific request of the Commission or other subsidiary bodies;

(f) The Executive Secretary in consultation with the Chairman or the Commission itself may invite organizations on the Roster to submit written statements. The provisions of paragraphs *(a)*, *(b)*, *(c)* and *(e)* above shall apply to such statements;

(g) A written statement or summary, as the case may be, will be circulated by the Executive Secretary in the working languages and, upon the request of a member or associate member of the Commission, in any of the official languages.

Rule 55

(a) The Commission and its subsidiary bodies may consult with organizations in category I or II either directly or through a committee or committees established for the purpose. In all cases, such consultations may be arranged on the request of the organization;

(b) On the recommendation of the Executive Secretary and at the request of the Commission or one of its subsidiary bodies, organizations on the Roster may also be heard by the Commission or its subsidiary bodies.

Rule 56

Subject to rule 23 the Commission may recommend that a non-governmental organization which has special competence in a particular field should undertake specific studies or investigations or prepare specific papers for the Commission. The limitations of rule 54*(d)* and *(e)* shall not apply in this case.

Chapter XIII

SUB-COMMISSIONS, OTHER SUBSIDIARY BODIES AND COMMITTEES

Rule 57

After discussion with any specialized agency functioning in the same field, and with the approval of the Economic and Social Council, the Commision may establish such continually acting sub-commissions or other subsidiary bodies as it deems necessary for the performance of its functions and shall define the powers and composition of each of them. Such autonomy as may be necessary for the effective discharge of the technical responsibilities laid upon them may be delegated to them.

Rule 58

The Commission may establish such committees and sub-committees as it deems necessary to assist it in carrying out its tasks.

Rule 59

Sub-commissions or other subsidiary bodies and committees, sub-committees and working parties shall adopt their own rules of procedure unless otherwise decided by the Commission.

Chapter XIV

REPORTS

Rule 60

The Commission shall, once a year, submit to the Economic and Social Council a full report on its activities and plans, including those of any subsidiary bodies.

Chapter XV

AMENDMENTS AND SUSPENSIONS

Rule 61

Any of these rules of procedure may be amended or suspended by the Commission, provided that the proposed amendments or suspensions do not attempt to set aside the terms of reference laid down by the Economic and Social Council.

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ISSN: 0252 - 2284
Printed at ESCAP, Bangkok
August 1990 - 1,925

01700

United Nations publication
E/1990/40
E/ESCAP/748